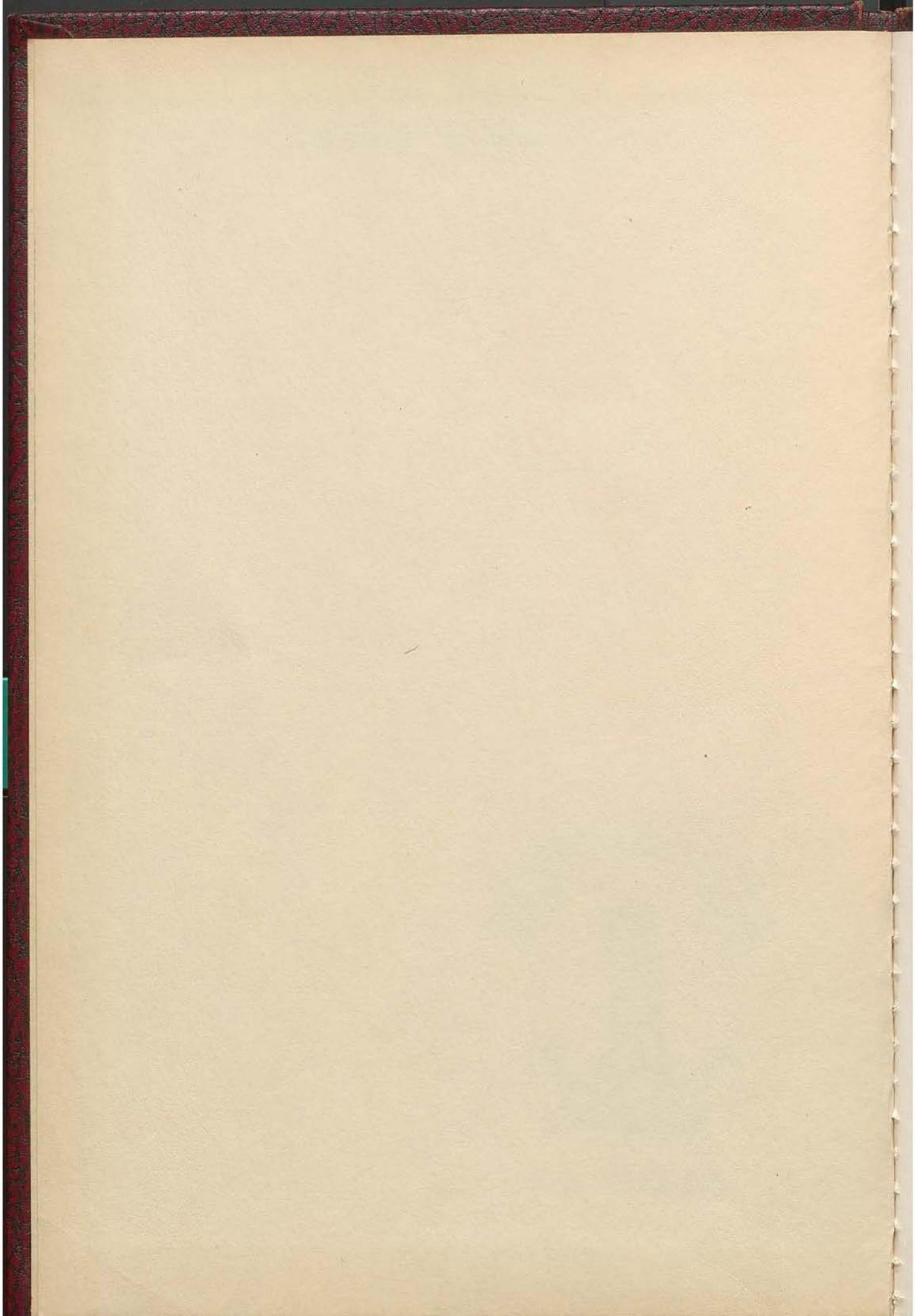


Kingsville

Through the Years

1783

1952



Kingsville Through The Years 1783 - 1952

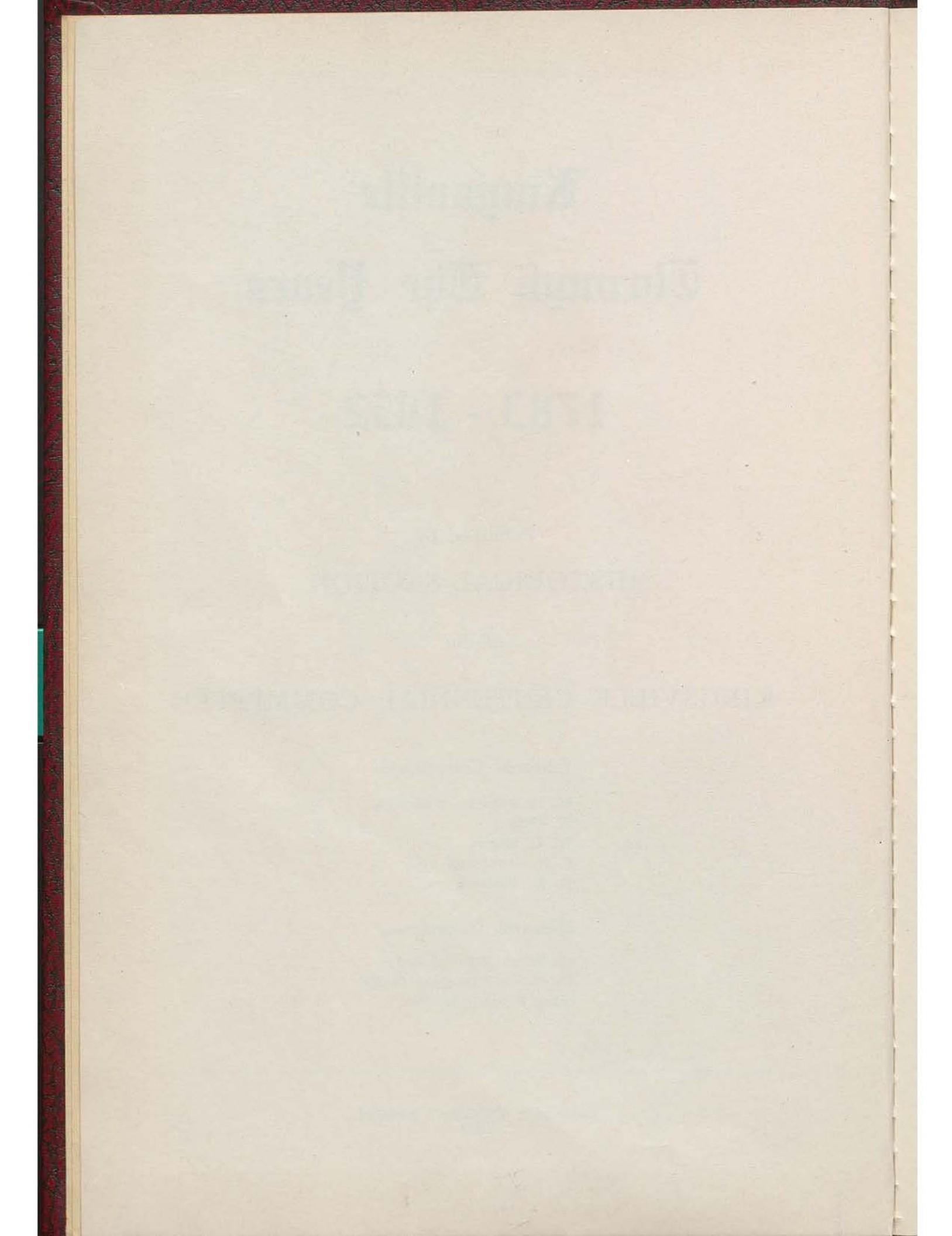
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W. Ellis
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F. K. Jasperson
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Research Committee:

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Welcome to Kingsville

This year, 1952, is one of special and pleasant significance to all of us who call Kingsville our home town.

It marks a full century in which, generation by generation, our families have lived, and worked and shared the blessings of community life together.

Best of all, it is the year in which so many of our old friends and former townspeople have chosen to "come home".

"Kingsville? Why that's my home town, too!"

There's a kind of magic in those simple words.

Old scenes flash back on the screen of memory at their sound.

They have shattered walls of loneliness between strangers in far-off cities, and drawn men closer together on the field of battle.

They express a realization which is prompting so many Kingsville old boys and girls to come home again this summer.

We extend you a warm greeting, and a hearty welcome. May your visit be a happy one, and your memories of Old Home Week, 1952, lure you back again, many times in the future.

This history of Kingsville has been prepared as a tangible reminder of our Centennial Summer, and as a tribute to those splendid pioneer men and women who founded our town. We acknowledge, with thanks, the time and effort expended by those responsible for compiling it, and we hope you will find many hours of pleasure in its pages.

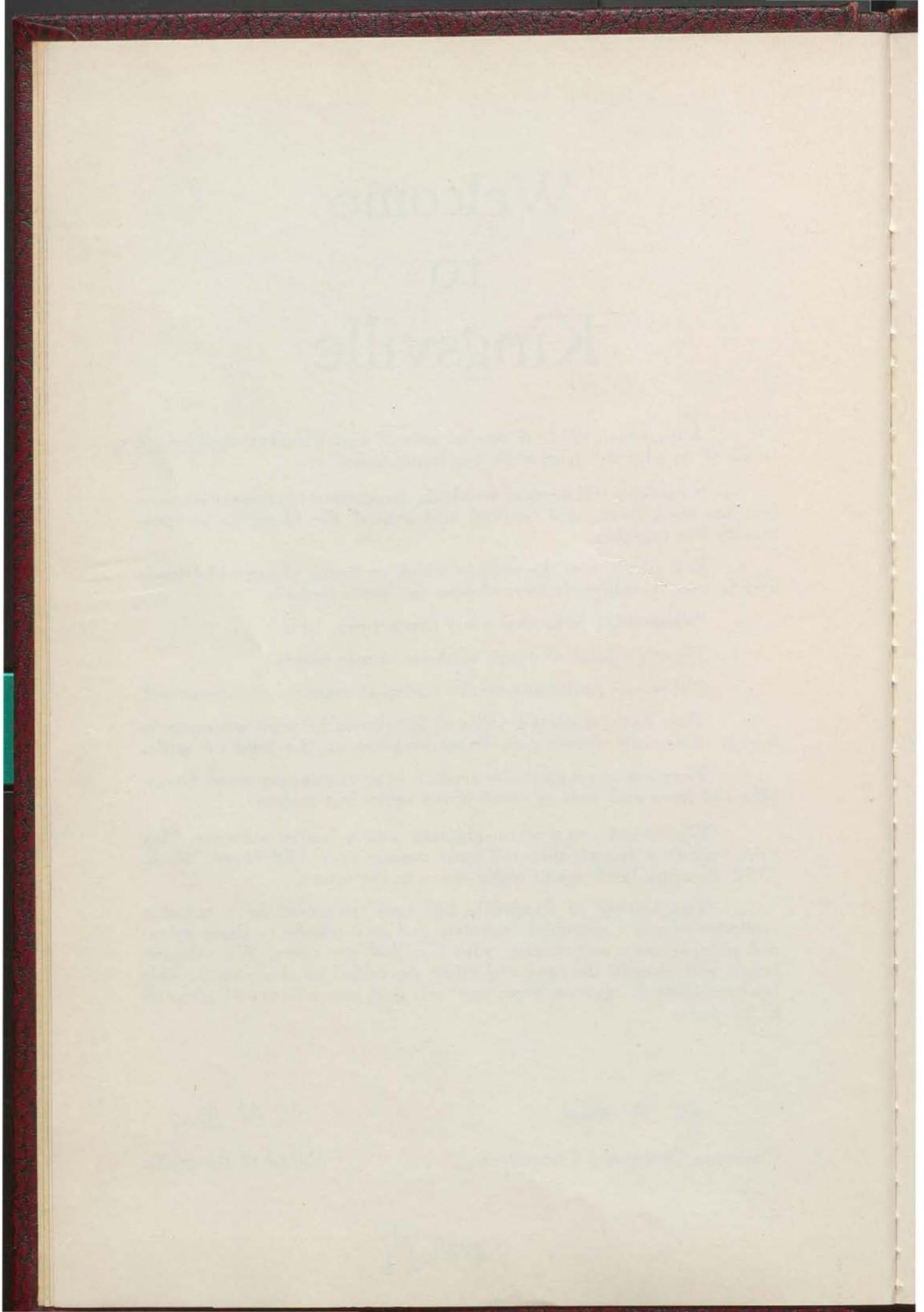
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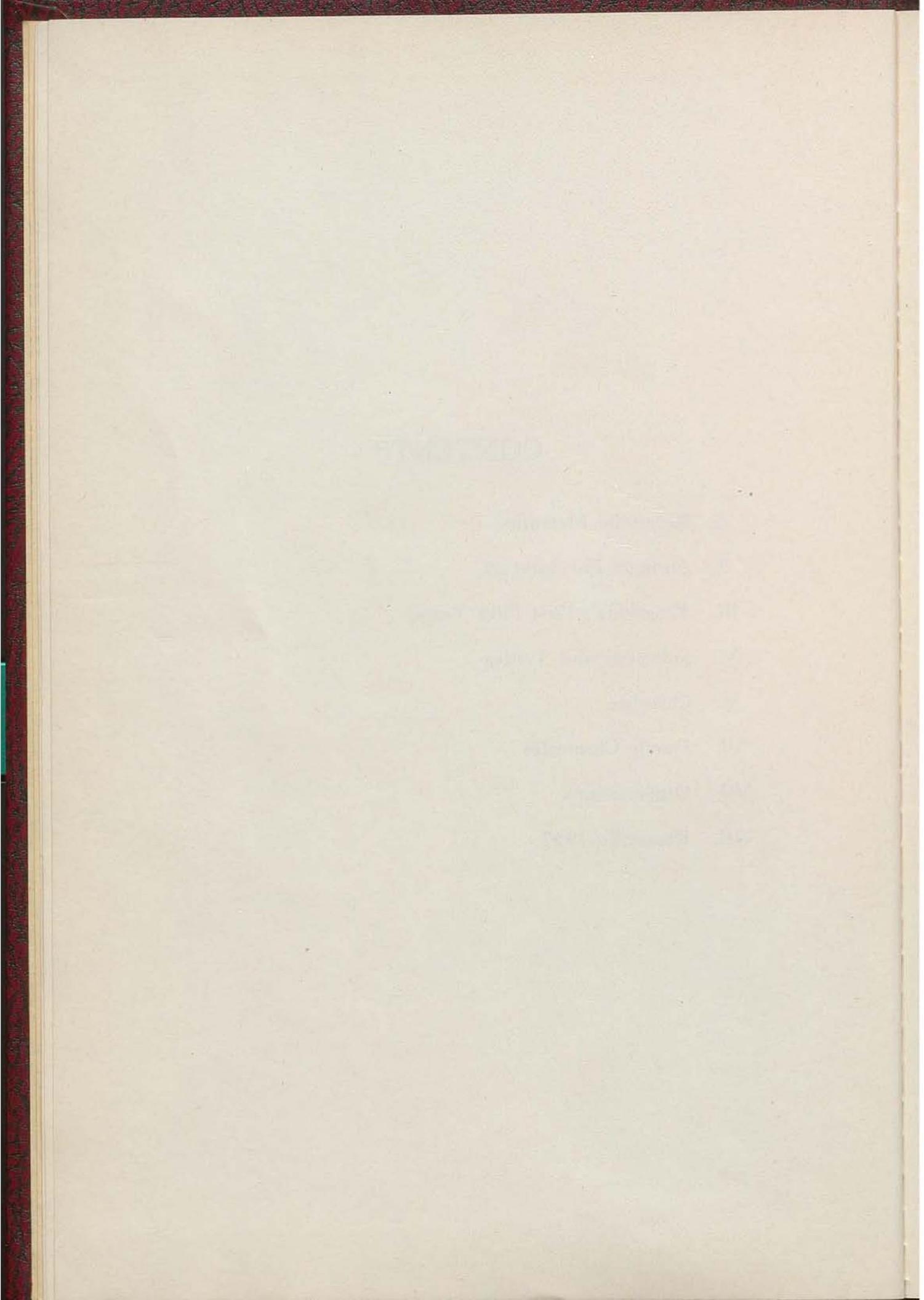
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CHAPTER I

Kingsville Memories

"Fond memory brings the light of other days around me"—Thomas Moore

Facts and memory make the story of any town. For the older folks, much of Kingsville's charm lies not in what they see today, but in what they recall of a yesterday which may be half a century or more gone by - - the individual experiences of childhood, and the important things of memory narrated from generation to generation by men and women long since passed away.

Aunt Lucinda Wigle, the great grandmother of Hubert Dawson, for example, used to tell of wolves howling close by her log cabin when, as a bride of 16, she used to wait for her husband, Adam, to come home from hunting racoons at night. This was during the time when Adam was clearing his farm, part of which is within the town limits of Kingsville today.

Angus Wigle used to point out the old bear traps in Wigle Grove. It was east of Kingsville, surrounding the Wigle Homestead, long since eroded into the lake. The traps were deep pits covered lightly with brush.

* * * *

Memory seems to retain the colorful things, those dramatic bits of domestic history which relate generally to a decade or a group of years, rather than to any specific date.

The very old people around the turn of the century used to tell sadly of the great flights of passenger pigeons from which Pigeon Bay got its name - - flights so thick that they actually darkened the sun and took many minutes to pass. These flights were probably at their greatest in the 1850's. Pigeons used to light on trees so thickly their weight would break the branches.

Commercial hunters took over the killing of the birds in thousands, but not satisfied with that, began netting to increase their bag. Then disease as well as the hunters began to take its toll. Soon, the passenger pigeon was on the way to extinction and by the end of the century the last of these birds known to exist, had gone, leaving but the name of Pigeon Bay on which Kingsville is situated.

* * * *

Stories of wrecks and storms on Lake Erie when sailing vessels used to line the horizon out from Kingsville harbor were favorites of those whose keen old eyes used to sweep the lake. Point Pelee was the "piling up" spot. Sometimes vessels came to grief in the shoal

water west of Kingsville harbor. One such wreck, the "Demming", used to stick out of the sand there and be the target for a winter skating trip, as recently as 1908. The water-blackened ribs of the old hull stood out above water in silent, grim testimony to death in a wild sea.

As recently as 1905 one could still see the great three and four masters going down the lake to Buffalo. Colorful crews sailed these vessels and through the years developed sailors' lore and chanteys second only to those of the ocean.

It is a fact that ships sailed out of Kingsville anchorages with crews singing as they hoisted sail such chanteys as,

"Come gather 'round, boys, now all hands --
Heave her up and bust her!
Oh, we'll say farewell to this old town,
Heave her up, lads, heave her high.
If we ever get out and can let go --
Heave her up, lads, heave her high!
We'll point her nose for Buffalo.
Heave her up and bust her!"

* * * *

Gradually steam took over until finally the only sailing vessels to visit Kingsville were the grimy, sail-patched old two-masters bearing cargoes of cedar posts for the Conklin Mill.

But the lake has always been a part of Kingsville, pressing in with its lure of adventure and mystery. Men have always gone out from Kingsville in ships whether to fish or to carry commercial cargo. And the lake has always seeped into the memory of all, whether through tales of summer, or of winter when the ice comes between us and Pelee Island.

Over that ice, horse and sleigh served the purpose which planes do today, carrying people to and from Pelee Island; sometimes to bring a doctor for someone seriously ill on the ice-bound island; other times to bring mail or provisions; or it might be a party who wanted merely to escape to the mainland.

Occasionally, blinding blizzards would overtake them and they would be lost. But the horses were uncanny in sensing direction and would bring them out. Once, in the '80's, George Jasperson, who was running a saw mill on Pelee, was driving home to Kingsville in a cutter when a blizzard overtook him. Afterward he told how though he kept trying to turn to the left, his horse kept resisting, wanting to go right. Finally, he gave in to the horse, which made a complete turn and brought him in exactly to the Kingsville dock.

There were stories of people dropping through the ice, even whole families being wiped out in this way. Indeed, we still witness thrilling battles with the ice when local gill net fishermen pit their steel-hulled diesels against the crushing might of floes late in November or again in the early spring. But today there are ship-to-shore

telephones to tell us of the battle, or merely to tell the skipper's wife via marine telephone at Detroit that the skipper won't be home for supper, perhaps not even for breakfast.

* * * *

In days gone by, people who lived for sunshine and laughter used to be among us early in spring — the gypsies. They were a gay lot and yet they used to spread fear amongst us, particularly among the children.

Horsetrading was their art. Where they came from no one seemed to know. The story was that they drifted up from the United States, following spring northward. The young girls wearing their colorful bracelets, gay clothes and necklaces, were of a dusky beauty to remember. Their favorite camping spot was the Hannah Welch property east of town where Austin Smith's residence now stands. There you saw them of an evening, cooking over open wood-fires close by their caravans, with dogs sprawled out, watching.

Farmers in the neighborhood used to mount special guards over their stables when the gypsies arrived. Weird stories circulated that they kidnapped children or lured them away. "If you aren't good the gypsies will get you," was a favorite disciplinary slogan. And then, one day, these gay wanderers of the roads came no more, leaving the sunny spring not any less early for us, but a little less gay. In those days they were as good a harbinger of spring as the purple martin is today.

* * * *

A few of us today remember the Calico Parties in the town hall back in the gay '70's when dancing meant quadrilles and ladies were demure and pretty, and men were moustachioed with fearful sweepers and when fun was just what you made it. People were very happy then.

But do you remember when that tireless group of troupers in The Guy Brothers Minstrel Show, made their yearly visit and the principal of the public school gave a half holiday to let you see the parade? Do you remember those excellent "cultural" shows which came to the town hall playing harps, ringing bells and making music out of water glasses? Or when the hypnotist came to town and demonstrated his powers by standing on the steps of the Kingsville hotel and hypnotizing a man standing in the window of the first movie house across the street?

Do you remember the Hallowe'en when a farmer's wagon was put astride th roof of the Town Hall?

Or do you remember old Washington, "Old Wash" as he was called, the escaped slave who lived back of Quick's grocery store, and wore a long tattered brown coat with a piece of rope for a sash? And how he used to carry a tall stick as a staff when he wandered all over town telling fortunes for a "little food"? Old Wash loved children and loved especially to tell their fortunes. He would sit under

a tree in the summer with a group of youngsters listening wide-eyed as he traced his warped old brown finger over a little hand.

Old Wash was found dead not so long ago, living in his ragged and grubby old hut to the end, with hundreds of nickles tied up in old socks and bags. With these nickles he was buried. Walter Scratch wrote a story about Old Wash that was published in the Toronto Star Weekly in 1939. And did you know that the very trees standing on the lawn of the old King home today were planted by escaped prisoners of the Civil War who fled to Canada and were given refuge by Colonel King.

* * * *

But memory is only a part of this book. The succeeding chapters are facts. They are briefly the story of Kingsville, the town which grew on Mill Brook, and its people from 1787 to the present.

CHAPTER II

Struggle For Survival

"The survival of the fittest"—Charles Spencer

The story of Kingsville begins about 1783, the time of the Treaty of Paris which recognized the independence of the American colonies. Until that time the district was inhabited by Indians, with white men's excursions, if any, being limited to occasional visits of fur traders, explorers, or Jesuit missionaries. The leading tribes seem to have been the Wyandotts, Ottawas, Chippewas and Potawatamies.

The Kingsville district, like the Detroit River section of Essex County, developed as an outgrowth from Detroit, where the French had established a fort and trading post in 1701. Champlain had visited the Essex County district in 1615, when he organized an unsuccessful attack on the Iroquois village at Detroit, but for the rest of that century white men's visits were spasmodic. M. de la Motte Cadillac, who founded Fort Ponchartrain at Detroit, gave an interesting word picture of the district in his report in 1701:

"Under vast avenues, you may see assembling in hundreds the shy stag and the timid hind with the bounding roebuck, to pick up eagerly the apples and plums with which the ground is paved . . . The golden pheasant, the quail, the partridge, the woodcock, the teeming turtle-dove, swarm in the woods and cover the open country intersected and broken by groves of full-grown forest trees which form a charming prospect . . . The woods are of six kinds—walnut trees, white oak, red, bastard ash, ivy, white wood trees and cottonwood trees. But these same trees are as straight as arrows, without knots, and almost without branches except near the top and of enormous size and height . . . There are such large numbers of swans that the rushes among which they are massed might be taken for lilies. The gabbling goose, the duck, the teal and the bustard are so common that, in order to satisfy you of it, I will only make use of the expression of one of the savages, of whom I asked before I got there, whether there was much game there: There is so much, he told me, that it only moves aside (long enough) to allow the boat to pass . . . If its position is pleasing, it is no less important, for it opens or closes the approach to the most distant tribes which surround these vast sweet water oceans."

The Kingsville district would not have been chosen for settlement as early as it was, in 1787, if it had not been for previous French settlements in Essex County. Tributary to Detroit a fairly extensive settlement had begun at L'Assomption (later "Sandwich"), and by 1750 this had extended south along the Detroit River as far as River Canard. Then on the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, in 1776, the Indians granted lands to British officers in the

area from Amherstburg south and east almost to Big Creek. So when the British planned to settle soldiers in the Essex County district, their eyes naturally fell on the area east of Big Creek Marsh,

Early British Settlement Plans

Essex County was settled earlier than most of Ontario, after the British conquest, since the French settlement had been disturbed so little by the Seven Years' War. Kingston and Toronto, for example, had been abandoned before 1763. Surveying of land and its allocation to settlers began in Canada in 1764, but until 1783 was confined almost entirely to what is now the Province of Quebec. Land dealing in Essex County during this period depended largely on grants, actual or alleged, from the Indians. The British Government's instructions to Governor James Murray in 1763 expressed the wish that ownership of land claimed under French rule should be recognized by the new colonial government. This gave a colour of right to the Indian grants, and no doubt added to the Indians' reluctance to tolerate white settlers who did not pay them for the land. This impediment to settlement was not removed until 1790, when the Government purchased all of the Indians' land in a block deal, reserving certain areas for the Indians' exclusive use.

We can imagine the disorder which thus greeted soldier settlers and Loyalists who attempted settlement immediately after the Revolutionary War. It is not surprising that many of them stayed only a few months, and then returned to the Stars and Stripes. These brief settlers in the 1780's included many in the Kingsville district. Free land and free settlers' necessities had been promised to loyal soldiers and civilians by Governor Carlton, and in 1783 the British Government formally adopted this policy in its instructions to Governor Haldimand, providing "for every master of a family 100 acres, and 50 acres for each person of which his family consisted; to every single man 50 acres; to every non-commissioned officer 200 acres; to every private man 100 acres; and to every person in their family 50 acres." These instructions were further elaborated in the instructions to Governor Lord Dorchester in August, 1786, providing particularly for the establishment of a special office of record, to keep systematic account of the holding of all lands.

The Land Boards, 1788-94

Still there was no effective machinery for the granting of land to settlers, and the Indian sales stood alone. A step towards order was taken in 1788, when Lord Dorchester divided the land west of the Ottawa River into four districts. The present Essex County was included in the District of Hesse, which extended from Long Point (now in Simcoe County) westerly. A Land Board was established in each district "to receive and report upon applications for land from settlers." Board meetings for the District of Hesse were held in Detroit, which remained part of Canada until 1796. Each Board was to begin by surveying the land in its district into town-

ships. Townships on a river or navigable water were to have a frontage of nine miles by a depth of twelve miles, other townships being ten miles square. Within each township, farm lots were to be of an area of about 200 acres each.

Each district land board was to hold regular meetings to consider petitions for grants of land, and upon being satisfied with the applicant's claim, to issue a "certificate of occupation" or "ticket". These certificates were to have no effect "if the petitioner shall not enter upon the location and begin the improvement and cultivation thereof within one year of the date of such assignment." The boards were to prevent individuals from monopolizing "such spots as contain mines minerals, fossils, and conveniences for mills and other singular advantages of a common and public nature."

The District Land Boards apparently had too much work to do, and their records became unsatisfactory. The District of Hesse was broken up in 1792, and a county land board was formed to supervise settlement in "the Counties of Essex and Kent," which was defined to include the present County of Lambton. Two years later the land boards were abolished altogether.

During the six years of their existence, the land boards in this district and county provided for rather extensive settlement, chiefly in Gosfield and Colchester townships. Governor Simcoe proclaimed in 1795 that settlers should deposit their tickets with their local clerk of the peace, "in order that grants may issue under the seal of the Province to the rightful claimants." Still the disorder must have continued, for the following year certificate holders were required "to ascertain the same upon oath before the magistrate in the Michaelmas quarter-sessions assembled."

"The Two Townships"

The four townships now comprising Gosfield South, Gosfield North, Colchester South and Colchester North were first described as "The New Settlement" or "The Two Connected Townships" or simply "The Two Townships". These were the first townships laid out in Ontario west of Long Point, including as far west of Detroit as the French had claimed as forming Canada, and may have been even the first townships laid out in any part of Ontario.

White men apparently had attempted settlement in the district earlier but in a list dated October 1, 1787, R. Matthews, the Major Commanding at Detroit directed 128 men to be settled "on the north side of Lake Erie, from a creek four miles from the mouth of the River Detroit (Big Creek?) to a small creek (Mill Creek) about a mile and a half beyond Cedar River." This list included 105 disbanded soldiers and 23 Loyalists. Most of the soldiers were members of Lieut. Col. Butler's Rangers, others being chiefly from the Detroit Volunteers or the King's Regiment.

The following year (1788) is usually given as the year when

Patrick McNiff and Abraham Irdell surveyed the outlines of the New Settlement. But the section west of Division Road must have been surveyed in outline before Major Matthews prepared his list. Specific lots were assigned to 92 of the men in the list, two other lots were reserved for Major McGregor, and three additional were reserved for the town-site of Colchester, making a total of 97 lots from Division Road west to the westerly limit of the Two Townships. When Thomas Smith subsequently surveyed the individual lots, he ended up with 97 lots. The Smith survey must have been completed before the time of the Constitutional Act of 1791, since no land was reserved for the Protestant clergy or for the Crown.

The Land Board seems to have almost disregarded Major Matthews' list, although many of his men no doubt had attempted settlement and had left before the Land Board began keeping minutes of its meetings.

Early Settlement Abandoned and Re-settled

How could a Loyalist, who was not included in the Matthews' list of 1787 or the Land Board's list of January 12, 1791, and who at most could have been entitled to about 650 acres of free land, be allocated 2,000 or 3,000 acres within the following few years? The answer must be that the early settlers sold their promised land at a very low price. Nor is it much wonder that they abandoned their free land to assist their living for their first year, since each man was promised a free ration of one pound of flour and 12 ounces of pork, and for their second year this was reduced to $5\frac{1}{4}$ ounces of flour and 4 ounces of pork. Utensils promised included an axe, a hoe, a spade, a plough, a portable grain mill (operated by hand), a hand-saw, a pickaxe, and a sickle for reaping. Many of these utensils were of inferior quality, and often apparently were not forthcoming, at least promptly. The portable grain mills appear to have been of little use, being like the old-type coffee mills. Until they could bring land under cultivation, unless they had brought supplies with them from the United States or elsewhere, these settlers were forced to live like the Indians by hunting and fishing.

A letter from Patrick McNiff, dated May 3, 1791, indicates the unfortunate condition of the settlers, and reveals an appalling abandonment of settlement in the district of Hesse. Mr. McNiff mentioned four chief reasons for the lack of settlement. First, many abuses had grown up, partly resulting from distance from the seat of government, so that in one year alone "nearly 100 able young men of Col. Butler's Rangers left the country," due to the delay in supplying them with promised assistance. Second, the great extent of false purchases from Indians by unscrupulous persons who resold the land "at the enormous price of 100 pounds for 100 acres of wild land." Third, the reservation of one-seventh of the land, including that on navigable rivers for clergy purposes and one-seventh for Crown purposes, thereby forced settlers to take lots in the second or third concessions and go to the expense of providing roads to enable them

to reach the shore. On one river, Mr. McNiff reported 28 families settled in front with considerable improvements, who would be forced to leave these improvements on account of the drastic order for clergy and crown reserves. Fourth, the survey orders had made no provision for roadways by which settlers in the rear concessions could reach the waterfront. "From River Canard upwards I do not find one yard left for a public road to lead to the back concessions, each person passing through his own lot."

The extreme difficulties encountered by settlers are well known to those who have heard the family legends passed down from early settlers. The years 1776 to 1788, states D. Macdonald in his Illustrated Atlas of 1881, "witnessed the first concerted influx of pioneers into the wilds of this township, among them being a Hessian named Leonard Kratz." The Indians so resisted the white settlers, according to the Atlas, that some of the pioneers, including Leonard Kratz, returned to the area around the Detroit River. Mr. Kratz did not return to Gosfield for four years.

Even after the Indian purchase of 1790, settlers had far from an easy existence in the entire Detroit area settlement. The settlers in 1793 sent one Lymburner, possibly Matthew or William D., who were granted Lots B and F in the Second Concession of Gosfield, to Britain to present to the House of Commons the difficulties of the settlers. Mr. Lymburner's speech emphasized that the settlement was isolated from the rest of Canada because of Niagara Falls. "As the farmers about Detroit, therefore, will have only their own settlement for the consumption of their produce," he argued, "such a confined market must greatly impede the progress of settlement and cultivation for ages to come." This, he felt, justified special consideration of the settlement from the hands of the British government. Failure of such special assistance probably was a factor in the separation of Detroit from Canada in 1796, twenty years after the Revolution.

The settlers of the 1790's apparently looked for their living to farming, rather than to industry or the fur trade. Their market town, according to Macdonald's Atlas, "was Detroit until Amherstburg sprang into existence at a later date, to both which places the settlers coasted their canoes" loaded with grain for the mills. So it is not surprising that the settlers in the Kingsville district in 1793 were so anxious to see the Mill Creek area granted to Andrew Ulch, who was a miller.

Division Street to Laurel Street

Kingsville from Division Street to a line about 500 feet west of Prince Albert Street comprised lots Numbers One and Two in Gosfield Township. The exact line between the two township lots has been somewhat obscured, since both lots were owned together by the Stewart family for many years and were subdivided together in 1850 and later years. But the actual line would about follow Laurel Street and its extensions northerly and southerly.

The first recorded settler in this section of Kingsville was one Thomas Curtis, of whom we know practically nothing. He apparently was followed by William Cook, who was a warrant officer in the Royal Artillery. Mr. Cook's name was in the Matthews list of 1787, but was reported by one of the Land Board members to be a "sham settler", meaning apparently that he had not actually taken up residence. Another board member reported that Mr. Cook had made "no improvement" on his land. The third claimant apparently was one Peter Williams, whose name does not appear in the earlier lists. The Board noted before 1793 that he was "supposed to be gone to the States." The land had been "promised conditionally to Peter Williams, provided Cook would not occupy and improve". The Board secretary added, "I desired Cornwall, his (Cook's or William's) agent, to make him acquainted with this."

The Land Board on November 29, 1793, was presented with a petition from "Andrew Alcock for leave to erect a grist mill on a spot of land on Mill Creek in the New Settlement, Lake Erie". Mr. Ulcock, as he was sometimes called, was supported in his petition by "most of the respectable inhabitants, representing the distress they are in, and praying that a mill seat be granted to Andrew Ulcock who is a miller." The Board granted him Lot No. 1 "with a small tract of vacant land supposed to be about 25 yards in breadth, for the purpose of building a mill on, for the benefit of the Settlement."

Other references to Andrew Ulch, as we know him, indicate the spelling of his name to be Ulcock, Ulish, Olch and Ulch.

Andrew Ulch must in fact have built the promised mill, since otherwise he would not have received his patent for Lot No. 1, which patent was issued on September 1, 1797. He sold the land to Charles Stewart by deed dated December 1815.

Laurel Street to Cemetery Road

The road immediately east of the W. T. Conklin property, about 500 feet west of Prince Albert St., known generally as Cemetery Road, forms the westerly boundary of what was formerly Lot No. 2 in Gosfield Township. The Matthews list of 1787 assigned this land to Alexander Clarke, a sergeant in McAlpin's Corps, his certificate of occupation being dated November 10, 1787. He was reported to be a "sham settler". Jonas Wood followed Clarke as a settler, but was reported to have made no improvement. We have not ascertained the history of the land from 1794 to 1806, but on June 12, 1806, a patent was issued to Jonathan Schieffelin.

Mr. Schieffelin had filed a petition with the Land Board for Lot No. 16 at some time prior to August 14, 1789. In a letter of March 24, 1791, he addressed the Land Board concerning his petition, in regard to which he had heard nothing for two years. His letter pointed out that he was entitled to a grant as a lieutenant in the Detroit Volunteers, and that at least one settler whom he knew was enjoying a fine farm without having made any application to the

Board. Part of the land which he claimed, was held by Schieffelin under a deed from the Chippewa Indians. The Land Board finally, on December 24, 1793, granted Schieffelin 1200 acres of land. Lot No. 2 in Gosfield appears to have been part of this award, and may have been held by Schieffelin for several years before he received the patent, which stated the area of the lot to be 152 acres.

Mr. Schieffelin sold this land to Andrew Ulch who re-sold it to Charles Stewart in 1815.

Cemetery Road to Old Mill Road

The easterly part of this area, comprising the Conklin farms and the land south of these, was petitioned for by William Wright on September 10, 1790, and also by Nathan Miller on the day following. Major Matthews' list of 1787 had assigned this land to James Wood, a private in Col. Butler's Rangers, but he had not improved the land. The patent was issued in the name of William Wright on March 14, 1798 comprising only 114 acres.

The westerly part was Lot No. 4 in Gosfield Township, and was granted by patent on June 12, 1798, to Peter Malott. This lot apparently was occupied prior to 1787 by Robert Dennison. The Matthews list awarded it to Francis Robert, a sergeant-major in the Detroit Volunteers. Robert also was declared a sham settler.

The land west of the Old Mill Road (Highway 18) was occupied briefly by John Hocust, and later by William Duggan of the King's Regiment. Neither of these improved the land, and in 1793 it was reported as "settled" by William Lamoth under a transfer from Duggan. The patent for the lot was issued in 1803 to Peter Malott. Did the Land Board secretary make an error in spelling, and should "Lamoth" have been "Malott"? Or is the similarity of names merely a coincidence?

Division Street to Spruce Street

The lots east of Division Line Road apparently were first allocated about the year 1790. They were surveyed in that year by Thomas Smith under the Land Board's order to provide more land for unsettled war veterans and Loyalists. The lots generally were referred to as "Two Connected Townships, Easternmost".

The land from Division Street to about 500 feet east of Spruce Street and its extensions northerly and southerly comprised Lot No. 1, Easternmost, and was allocated by the Land Board on October 15, 1790, to Henry Tofflemire, the land to comprise about 200 acres. Henry Tofflemire at that time was not of full age, but was granted the land as a special concession to his father, Martin Tofflemire, who had been "prisoner of war to a British officer who had not authority over the Indians to rescue his children, captured at the same time, from slavery; his wonderful exertions to support so large a family, and to pay so heavy a ransom for one of his children to the Indians." Martin had previously been granted Lot No. 13 on the

express condition that he would build a mill within one year, a condition which he apparently did not fulfill.

The patent for Lot No. 1 Easternmost, was not issued until February 9, 1824, and the grant at that time was made to John Tofflemire, rather than Henry.

Thomas Smith's early map shows the section of this land, lying southerly from a line near Beech Street, under the name "Henry Tofflemire", the name "Henry" being crossed out and the name "John D." being substituted. No doubt John D. Tofflemire was the son or brother of Henry.

Immediately north of Beech Street the Smith map shows a considerable area marked "spring", about 1300 feet east and west, and about 1000 feet north and south. This area is shown as the origin of Mill Brook. This "spring" area thus would have included the Frog Pond, as it was known, north of Beech Street, as well as the Mill Creek and flats. Mr. Smith's survey notes of Division Road, known then as Mill Brook Line and later as Division Line Road, indicate that the spring proper was in the southerly bank of Mill Brook, about 260 feet northerly from Beech Street. These notes also indicate that at the time of the survey the occupant of the land (James Kitchenside) had improvements on both banks of Mill Creek, although it is not stated whether these constituted buildings or just bush clearing. Kitchenside does not appear in any of the early lists of settlers, yet he must have settled some time before 1792. He received his patent on March 18, 1805.

The section south of Beech Street was sold by John Tofflemire to Richard D. Herrington on June 28, 1824. The section north of Beech Street was sold to Abel Gustin (later "Augustine") by James Kitchenside on February 26, 1805, for the price of £97.10s, the farm comprising 300 acres.

East to Wigle Sideroad

Most of the town more than 500 feet east of Spruce Street was included in Lot No. 2 in the First Concession, Eastern Division, of Gosfield South—or as it was first known, Lot No. 2 Easternmost. Petitions for Lot No. 2 Easternmost were received by the Board from George Myers, Charles Monger, William Lockhart, and John Wist, in that order. Myers had applied on June 17, 1791, for land in the New Settlement, but in the following autumn this report was ordered "done away".

Charles Monger's petition was on February 1, 1791, and it was ordered to be "done away" on the same day as the Myers petition. William Lockhart applied on April 9, 1791, but apparently did not press his petition, as on July 13, 1792, he purchased Lot 65 (near Colchester) from James Wilcox. The land finally was allocated to John Wist, who had applied for it on June 3, 1791. Wist later traded this land to Leonard Scratch, the transfer being approved on June 8,

1792. The patent was issued to Leonard Scratch on May 17, 1802. This land comprised approximately the land south of the easterly projection of Beech Street.

Wigle Sideroad to the East Town Limits

The remaining part of Kingsville's easterly section comprised part of Lot No. 3 in the First Concession, Eastern Division, of Gosfield Township, or "Lot No. 3 Easternmost". This lot was granted by the Land Board on October 15, 1790, to Henry Ragus. On January 18, 1793, the Land Board notified Ragus that he had not performed the necessary improvements on his land, and that he must do so by March 15, 1793. Ragus then exchanged Lot No. 3 Easternmost for Lot No. 86 (near Big Creek), the new owner of Lot 3 being Charles Filpley of the Forty-fourth Regiment. Filpley seems to have made another trade about the same time, transferring Lot No. 3 to Windall Wagaly (this being the spelling of Wendel Wigle's name for many years in Land Board records), who appears as occupant of the land on Thomas Smith's map. He received his patent on May 17, 1802.

Nicholas Wetherholt was allocated Lot No. 4 Easternmost on October 15, 1790, and on January 18, 1793, was issued the same notice as that to Ragus on the adjoining lot. Wetherholt had died meanwhile, and on April 17, 1793, the Land Board decided to grant the land to Charles Munger, a blacksmith, "recommended by the inhabitants as a useful man from his trade to be settled among them." Charles Munger's patent was issued on July 16, 1797, comprising 203 acres. Many years later, on October 15, 1819, the same land was granted by patent to Joseph Munger. Joseph Munger appears as the occupant on Thomas Smith's map.

Lot No. 5 Easternmost, which includes Cliffside Beach in about its centre, was reserved by the Land Board "for public uses." This was the location at which the Land Board expected a town to develop.

Early Mills

The early settlers of Gosfield and Colchester in the 1780's and 1790's and later were frantic in their need for milling facilities where their grain could be ground and also where their logs could be sawn. Such hand-powered grinding facilities as were available were inadequate and impractical. Taking grain by sail-boat or canoe to Detroit, and later to Amherstburg, was costly and wasteful. The high banks of Mill Creek, apparently with a flow of water greater than today, made for dams and water powered mills. This was a chief reason for Kingsville's early development as a settlement distinct from the surrounding farming community.

Charles Stewart is known to have operated a fairly successful grist mill near the present fish hatchery, beginning about 1816. It would appear that Andrew Ulch had begun this mill, and that he had it in operation before 1797. Certainly Macdonald's Atlas was

wrong in stating that Mill Creek was so named because of Charles Stewart's mill, since it was known as Mill Brook in the early 1790's.

Abel Augustine, known then as Abel Gustin, was operating a grist mill and tile factory at the northerly end of what is now Spruce Street in 1815, obtaining his power from a Mill Creek dam. It is possible that James Kitchenside included a mill near this site in his improvements referred to about 1792.

The addition of tile manufacturing by Abel Augustine in 1815 was a tremendous boon to the district, which included so much swampy land. Even Charles Stewart, who bought most of Kingsville west of Division Road in 1815, is reported to have said that he would not have purchased the land, due to the need for drainage, if he had not known that tile would be available from Augustine's mill. These early tile were at first square, and later octagonal in shape, and some of them are still in use.

During the years which followed, at least two other grist mill-sawmill combinations existed on Mill Creek. One of these was on the south side of the Creek, immediately east of Prince Albert Street. The second was on the west side of the creek, west of the new section of Greenhill Cemetery.

The location of Mill Creek in the early days is something of a problem. Thomas Smith's map of the middle 1790's shows the creek to extend westerly only a little beyond what is now Queen Street. Possibly the early survey was not too accurate. An alternative is that a branch of the creek flowed southerly, somewhat west of Queen Street, joining the main body of Mill Creek south of the present C. & O. Railway tracks. Some of this water apparently entered Mill Creek by flowing south-westerly from the present intersection of Queen and Main Streets to the westerly end of Pearl Street.

Some time after 1820 a grist mill existed, along with a sawmill, on the north side of Main Street West, where Covell's Hardware is now located. Beginning in the 1890's this grist mill was operated by an internal combustion engine (although it sounded like external combustion) using natural gas as fuel. But in the early years it is reported to have used water power.

Later the leather tannery of Leonard Nightingale in the 1850's also made use of water from this branch of Mill Creek where it entered Mill Creek at the westerly end of Pearl Street.

Survival in Gosfield

We have seen that during the five years 1788 to 1793 each farm lot along the lake front in Gosfield and Colchester came to be occupied by a family of bona fide settlers, about 110 families in all. Even this settlement might easily have failed, considering the unfavourable settlement experience of the previous 25 years of British rule. But it did not fail. By the middle and late 1790's the second and third concessions were beginning to have settlers. The process was slow,

and we know that many lots in the fifth and sixth concessions were not even patented until the 1870's. Even in 1881 it was estimated that less than 40 percent of Gosfield's area was under cultivation.

It was unfortunate that so many of Butler's Rangers and other war veterans, for whom the first concession of Gosfield and Colchester were surveyed, became disgusted with weaknesses in the settlement system and left. The discharged veterans who did remain, along with the Loyalists and other early settlers, had the moral and physical strength to persevere, to clear and drain the land, and to found one of Canada's top farming communities. These men essentially were not fur traders or even woodsmen, but were farmers.

The spirit and zeal of our predecessors in Gosfield are illustrated by a story of the War of 1812. When war on the British community in Essex County was imminent in 1813, all men were summoned to bear arms and to stay at the Fort of Amherstburg. When harvest-time came, the farmers of the new Settlement asked for leave to return home. This leave was refused, but the farmers took their muskets and returned to their crops. General Proctor, commander at the fort sent a messenger to the farmers to state that if they did not come back for duty at once, he would send a band of Indians for either them or their scalps. The farmers sent the messenger back with the reply that Proctor could do as he pleased, and that they would report only after the harvest. They carried on the harvest, working in each other's fields, with guns close at hand and with their children posted as guards in the woods.

No doubt some of the men in the Kingsville district were employed in the 1830's and 1840's in the Colborne Iron Furnace operation on the farm now owned by Verne Thompson at Olinda, or Colborne as it was then called. Households in the Kingsville district no doubt benefited also from products of the iron foundry there. The operation apparently began in 1831 under the proprietorship of Field and Calhoun, although it may have been operated as early as 1828 by one George Bruner. Products of the operation included pig iron, which was shipped to Toronto, and farm implement parts, household utensils, and plates for steam boat boilers. Employment was reported in 1831 to be sixty or seventy men, and a little later to be "several hundred".

The erection of a brick house by Leonard Kratz in 1823 seems a marked milestone in the early history. By the end of the 1830's it was clear that the settlement in Gosfield would endure.

CHAPTER III

Kingsville's First 50 Years

"God made the country, and man made the town"—William Cowper

The beginnings of Kingsville as distinct from Gosfield can be seen in the 1840's. Once a week Trading Day brought Indians and white settlers together at the Trading Post or The Exchange which was stationed on one of the present four corners. Trading Day must have been a welcome and colourful event in the grim, arduous days of the early settlers. The Bruner family brought hand-made brooms; John Herrington traded sorghum freshly boiled in a large outdoor vat gracing the present Birchlea Villa site; others brought maple syrup, rag carpets, in fact any produce at hand in the pioneer's settlement. By 1846 Lewis Jasperson, who had managed a lumber supply camp, saw possibilities on the four corners and opened a general store about where Douglas Layman's Shoe Store is now located. A blacksmith shop was also operating at this time. The Essex Gazetteer 1866-67 reports that Samuel Rose opened a hotel in 1845 and that a village was planned out in 1844 by James Kinley (a printing error may state "Kinley" instead of "King").

We do know that in 1834 a forceful character in the person of Col. James King had taken up residence very close to the four corners of our town, probably on or near the site of Queen's Garage. He was a man who had the interests of his fellow settlers at heart. His previous remarkable efforts in teaching under great handicap are related elsewhere in this book. At this time he helped and inspired the neighbouring settlers to co-operate in a school building which was erected in 1844. He taught here, and for close to 25 years was an outstanding leader in the educational work of Gosfield. According to the Reporter of 1899, Kingsville was named after Col. King in its first years when Andrew Stewart divided his land west of Division Street into town lots, and registered a plan of the subdivision in 1850. Soon after this Mr. Herrington subdivided part of the land east of Division Street.

Now the wheels of business began to turn. In 1849 Lewis Jasperson sold his store to Felix Lafferty who in turn sold it to Alexander McDonald. James Flood operated a general store in 1853, did considerable lumbering, and later sold out the enterprise to Leonard Nightingale.

The above Felix Lafferty is listed as Kingsville's first post master in 1852, and the above Alex McDonald was as far as we can ascertain the second post master during the years 1856-61. To be a Jack-of-all-trades was very commendable in those early days.

Kingsville's population had reached 100 in 1850.

Henry Harris had set up a foundry on Main Street West, by 1850, apparently on the site of the new Bell Telephone office. Its story, no doubt, links up with that of the Colbourne Iron Furnace at Olinda in the 1830's but it was destined to carry on into the twentieth century, operated by Mr. Harris and his descendants. A town hall was erected in 1852, situated where T. J. Salmoni's Store now is, on the south side of Main Street West. The town hall could tell many stories of planning and conniving as well as of fun and frolic if it could talk.

Another community centre was the Fairgrounds, where the race track lay. Located on the site of the present Thornton subdivision, it played a colourful part in Kingsville's early life. To the thrill of horse racing was added the zest of convivial gatherings, band playing and general hilarity. Horse racing dates back to the 1850's but the date of the first fall Fair is unknown to us. In 1851 the Essex County Agricultural Society was reorganized and by 1866, if not much earlier, Kingsville held an annual fair. For many years the Fairgrounds were owned by Michael Wigle, who died in 1900.

The top celebration in Kingsville in the 1850's was the civic reception tendered to Arthur Rankin, M.P.P., in 1850. Some 50 stalwart troopers of the Kingsville district, mounted on fine horses, met Mr. Rankin "between Malden and Robinson's Tavern." The corps saluted him from a mounted gun "cast expressly for the occasion at the Kingsville foundry" by Henry Harris. Accompanied by a deputation of "the more sedate portion of the inhabitants" and by "the excellent string band of Kingsville, the cavalcade advanced upon the village." Some 120 persons sat down to dinner in the town hall, which was specially decorated. Here the band played and vocalists entertained the gathering.

By 1857, according to the Canadian Directory, Kingsville had shaped up as a fairly complete settlement. Four clergymen had connections here; one doctor, McDonald by name, was established; there were two carpenters and cabinet makers, one innkeeper, one hotel proprietor, two blacksmiths (H. Malotte and T. Pulford), one shoemaker (John G. Sparks), one wagonmaker (Edwin Pulford), one flour miller (William Maynard), three general merchants (Jas. Elliott, Leonard Nightingale and Alexander MacDonald), and, in the person of Col. King, a customs officer, notary public and insurance agent.

It is readily seen that the basic necessities of life could be made available in 1857 without access even to the mail order catalogue. Incidentally the mail did arrive three times a week, and no doubt the stage coach tied up at the hitching post on Main and Division Streets.

The little hamlet was thriving and deriving sustenance from the lumbering and farming operations of the neighbouring vicinity. Its future seemed well assured.

Growth in the 1860's

A decade later we see by the Essex Gazetteer a town of 500 persons with a quickly expanding business centre. By now the Kingsville dock was built to accommodate six vessels, which carried farm and forest products, lumber, cord wood, wheat, corn, oats, barley, tobacco, fruit and sorghum. Lime kilns appear to have been set up on the Park Street Hill and on the west bank of Mill Creek on Main St. West. On Park Street lime previously transported from Pelee Island was processed. On Mill Creek, lime was extracted from the limestone rock on the hillside itself, and was used for building purposes.

Nine carpenters and cabinet-makers, two masons, three blacksmiths and carriage makers are evidence that building in Kingsville was booming.

Two doctors, W. H. Drake and E. Allworth, with three dentists, A. Berlin, L. D. McMichael and A. Wigle, kept the village in good form physically, and three ministers mentioned elsewhere were on duty.

No less than three hotels stood ready to refresh the weary traveller—The Exchange, operated by George Malotte, with Chas. Grenville as clerk; the Temperance House, operated by W. H. Castleman; and the Rob Roy, operated by J. J. McLeod. The general merchants were increased to five, but one specialized in drugs and perfumery, one in liquor and one in hardware.

A bakery and confectionery business, soon to make Kingsville's first ice cream, was now managed by Henry Harris, along with his foundry. New village businesses included saddle and harness making, tanning (Leonard Nightingale), tailoring (George Waggett), butchering (Joel Broadwell), watch and jewellery making (R. G. Lockhart), sale of nursery stock (David McDonald), ashery operations or the making of soft soap (Hezekiah Marks), and photographic artistry (Chas. Wigle).

Roads must have been greatly improved by 1866. Two mail coaches arrived and left each day, one going by the Lakeshore Road to Amherstburg and Windsor, the other going to Leamington and on to Windsor by the Talbot Road. The Talbot Road was largely corduroy, but in 1866 a joint stock company gravelled it for six miles out of Windsor. Many years were to pass before gravel roads were to supersede the old time corduroy trails so common to the nineteenth century.

The Years Following Confederation

Kingsville by 1867, the year of Canada's Confederation, had become established as a lake port for the Gosfield farming community, which then was reported as "well settled and in a high state of cultivation, producing wheat, corn, oats, barley and tobacco in abundance, also fruit of every description and a considerable quantity of sorghum. Kingsville continued to expand during the years 1867 to

1873, but a nation-wide depression then set in. When recovery came to business about 1878, the community's expansion continued.

The Dominion of Canada Atlas comments in 1881 that "the most prominent features of attractiveness displayed by the village (Kingsville) are a number of mills and carriage factories, besides several other mechanical industries; a population of about 1,000; the usual complement of shops and stores, some of the latter being very fine ones; a customs house; division court office; and a number of the secret and benevolent societies, one of which (the Masonic) has a neat hall of its own . . . all in all, the village of Kingsville possesses many features of commercial, social and intellectual interests and importance in churches and school accommodations being equally as creditable as its institutions of trade, a combination of all which entitle the place to a conspicuous rank in the list of Western Ontario villages."

The Kingsville Reporter began publication in 1873, but copies of only a few issues have been located for the years before 1893. The Amherstburg Echo of July 11, 1879, reports a race between pound boats owned by A. Scratch and John Lott. Pound-net fishing seems to have been a thriving trade even in the 1870's. The same issue of the Echo quotes the Kingsville Reporter as complaining of the manner in which the law was being violated in regard to cattle, pigs and geese running at large, and urging the road overseer to attend to his duties.

Kingsville was officially incorporated as a village in 1878. The population had doubled from the figure of 500 in the 14 years following 1867.

The village council decided in its meeting of May 2, 1880, that Beech Street was then sufficiently improved for use as a public highway. Another bakery was established in the same month. A shooting match was held early that May between the Kingsville Gun Club and the New California Club.

Canfield's lumber yard is mentioned in the Amherstburg Echo issue of August 20, 1880, as being located on Queen Street. The same issue refers to George Broadwell's construction of a slaughter house "west of the old burying ground." Messrs. A. and H. Wigle were making progress towards manufacturing their "Boss Washer", having received letters patent for their company and having survived an inspection by the Department of Weights and Measures.

Lovell's Directory of 1882 enumerates Kingsville's principal industries as a woollen mill, a grist mill and a sawmill. The Directory emphasizes the district trade in lumber, railroad ties and staves. It places the village's population at 900, although the Aalas of 1881 placed the population at about 1,000.

The 1870's were years of progress for Kingsville.

The Walkers and The 1880's

Kingsville apparently did not progress rapidly during the early 1880's. Another nation-wide depression existed for several of these years. Towards the end of the decade, however, the community again was moving forward. The Walkers came to Kingsville during these years completing the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway (now the Chesapeake & Ohio R.R.) as far as Kingsville in 1889. Advertising by the railway emphasized its speed by declaring that its timetable was based on Eastern Standard Time, "32 minutes faster than sun time." The railway afforded passenger service daily except Sunday. Before the advent of the motor car, this was an important facility. Kingsville enjoyed the same freight rates as Windsor and Port Stanley, an advantage which is not enjoyed today in some articles.

Two furniture manufacturers operated in Kingsville at this time. One was Richard Gregory. The other, conducted by Messrs. McDonald and Duggan, emphasized bedroom suites priced as low as \$9.00. This furniture was made by the proprietors on the premises, and some of it is still in use in Kingsville even now.

Physicians practising in these years were Dr. W. J. Campeau in the Grenville Block, and Dr. S. A. King on Mill Street West. R. F. Golden advertised his services as a veterinary doctor, having an office in the Grenville Block. Dr. Andrew Wigle appears to have been the only dentist in town at that time. Two offices solved legal problems—that of Caleb P. Simpson in the Grenville Block, and Fleming and Wigle who occupied room 1 of the Town Hall as a branch of their Windsor office.

George Cooper conducted a tailoring establishment, and Fitch & Co., a shoe store. John Maycock, Newell Woodiwiss, and W. R. Longland each contracted for erecting buildings. Brown, Bird and Co. advertised their woollen store in the Grenville Block, and Bauslaugh and Scratch, their groceries and dry goods. Oscar Greiner and D. L. Wigle and Co. operated hardware stores. Arthur Conklin was selling farm implements and binder twine.

Several oil wells were drilled in and near Kingsville in the late 1880's. The Reporter issue of March 14, 1890, reports two particular oil wells drilled by Messrs. Hiram Walker & Son. The first hole had been put down to a depth of about 1,200 feet, when the work had to be abandoned on account of the tools becoming fast. A second well was commenced "where the sawmill stands, and on the previous Friday at a depth of about 1,000 feet a fair show of oil was struck. As near as can be ascertained there is about 12 feet of oil-bearing rock."

Council minutes for the week reported that Reeve S. A. King was in the chair, and that Councillors Malotte, Bird, Grenville, and Fitch were present. Council decided to build a sidewalk at Fox's hill (Mill St. West), and to put a rail on the bridge. A sidewalk also was to be extended east to the town limit. Progress was reported on the ditch being constructed on Beech Street. Discussion took place also

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LEADING KINGSVILLE CITIZENS OF 1883

The above picture is believed to be a gathering of Kingsville citizens at the official opening of the present town hall in 1883. The picture was taken on the steps of the town hall.

concerning improvement to the southerly end of Division Street at Lake Erie (Lakeside Park?), where a roofed shelter was planned for recreational purposes.

Advertisers in the Reporter in 1890 included Randolph Ulch, a butcher on Main Street. Two blacksmith shops advertised, being that of Wesley Ulch on Main Street West, conducting also a carriage works, and that of Robert Fleming on Division St. North. William Wigle Sr. advertised his livery barn on Division St. North, emphasizing "fine driving horses, buggies, and cabs", promising special attention to orders by telephone or telegraph.

Three sawmills advertised their products in 1890, these being the mill of Tofflemire and Lane on the fourth concession, Bawslaugh's sash and door factory and lumber yard, and David Conklin's mill on the fourth concession and Division Road. The paper also mentioned that Leonard Malotte had bought out Messrs. Tofflemire and Lane, and had moved into Kingsville, operating at the southeast corner of Prince Albert and Main Streets under the name "Kingsville Lumber Yard."

News items in this issue of The Reporter indicate that the Kingsville Band and the Kingsville Gun Club were thriving organizations.

James Doan's Drug Store served the community from 1867 until 1904 at a location west of Nelson Layman's present store. "Doan's Kidney Pills" were a well known item in Canada and the United States in the 1880's. Mr. Doan sold the store to Lorne Shire, who operated it only two years and then sold to Harry C. Layman.

Charles S. Miller opened a second drug store in September, 1889, in the Grenville Block where the Home Bakery now operates.

The Grenville Block was one of the first store and office buildings in Kingsville, being approximately in the location of the present T. J. Salmoni and Sons Stores, Kenneth McCreery's Jewellery Store, and the Home Bakery. This Block was rebuilt from the nucleus of the old Town Hall building.

As the 1880's closed, the interest of Hiram Walker and Sons in Kingsville was its new main-spring. A new chapter of progress was beginning.

Power for the Nineties — Natural Gas

The Walker family followed up their interest in Kingsville in 1891 by construction of the first Mettawas Hotel, with a complete water pumping system. The Mettawas was reported to have cost \$250,000 — a very high sum, considering that skilled workmen at that time were receiving about \$1.25 a day. It afforded accommodation for 300 guests. The first large-scale enterprise recognizing Kingsville's resort attractions, the Mettawas continued to operate for 13 years, being torn down in 1904 when the town council refused to



THIS BAND PICTURE WAS TAKEN IN 1874

Kingsville always supported good bands and orchestras. As early as the 1850's "the band" was a town institution. This pictures the band of 1874.

Front row left to right: James Doan, Foster Scratch and Wm. Kennedy; second row: Martin Wigle, Wallace Wright, Lewis Malott, Sam Forster, and George Rumbel; back row: Owen Harris, E. O. Scratch, Calvin Augustine, Arthur Augustine, Oscar Griner, and Eli Warner, band master.

modify its assessment for tax purposes. Also in 1904, it is interesting that a companion Walker enterprise, the Lake Erie Detroit River Railway, was sold to the Pere Marquette Railway Co.

The Walker pumping equipment and pump-house were purchased by the village in 1893, when water mains were laid on the principal streets. About the same time the village built the water tower at the rear of the Town Hall, this tower serving as a reservoir for the system even now after 60 years of use.

David Conklin built the Conklin Block also, in 1893, providing space for four stores, the Mechanics Institute (forerunner of the Public Library) and several apartments. Three years later Dr. Andrew Wigle built the Wigle Block, now housing Hugh Secord's store, H. L. Statham's Store and Thomas Scott's Barber Shop. C. S. Miller moved his drug store to the corner space that year, where he continued until 1906.

The evaporating plant, occupying the original building now owned by Continental Leaf Tobacco Co. Ltd., began operations about the year 1895. Dried apples, cider and jelly were shipped to many parts of Canada and the world. Manager was W. E. Delong. A canning factory on the site of the present Canadian Canners, Ltd. building was processing tomatoes and sweet corn for sale mainly in Toronto and Montreal. Cheese making and broom manufacturing also were important industries of the time. The woollen mill was employing 20 persons, and a glass factory was beginning work at the close of the century. A grain elevator "which buys grain the year around" was in operation. A pump factory, two carriage works, a bicycle factory, and a box factory were also in the list of industries.

The chief key to Kingsville's industrial expansion of the 1890's was natural gas, available to householders at a low price for heating, and almost free of charge to industries for power. The saga of natural gas appears elsewhere in this book in some detail.

Hardware stores in Kingsville in the 1890's included that of S. L. McKay, as well as that of Adams & Coatt. S. L. McKay came to Kingsville in 1890, and had first operated a small hardware store. In 1893 he moved into the new building constructed by David Conklin, occupying the premises now housing E. R. McCay's Hardware. Adams & Coatt commenced business in 1897, the proprietors being A. G. Adams and J. R. Coatt. This firm carried on business in the location now occupied by Kenneth Rae's Hardware.

Drygoods stores were operated by C. W. Hendershot, beginning in 1896; Paul D. Hendershot, commencing in 1897 and specializing in clothing and furnishings; W. A. Day, who included groceries and shoes and crockery, and who began business in the Conklin Block about 1893. F. A. Miller also operated a grocery store, purchasing the store of James Wigle in 1899. Meat markets were operated by Joshua Wigle, who began business in 1883, and by I. Thrasher. Groceries were sold by T. J. Salmoni from the year 1894, by Michael

G. Brethour, who combined groceries with fine shoes, and also by W. A. Day.

Custom tailoring was a leading trade in the 1890's. The Weir Tailoring Company, of which John Weir was proprietor, began in 1891. Joseph H. Langtry began his trade in Kingsville in 1894 and continued until recent years.

Livery stables were operated by William Wigle, whose business began in 1884, and by W. J. Gilkinson, who began his livery and bus line in 1896. The bus line served as a taxi for the entire town.

Messrs. Adams and Pearsall combined furniture retailing and undertaking, commencing business in 1899. Richard Gregory was also operating as an undertaker and furniture merchant in the 1890's having continued in business since he commenced in 1867. The bakery business of Henry Crow, which had been conducted for many years, was sold in 1899 to Cooper & Son. E. O. Scratch was operating his store for boots and shoes in the Conklin Block, having commenced business in 1889.

Charles Leggett, conducting his business on the premises now owned by Cascadden's Novelty Shop, specialized in optical goods and optical services, with many novelties as sidelines. He began business in 1898, and continued until about the year 1940.

Dr. Andrew Wigle conducted his dental practice in his building at the southwest corner of Main and Division Streets, beginning in the 1880's. Dr. A. R. Robertson also began a dental practice in 1899. Dr. S. A. King appears to have been the only physician practicing in Kingsville at the turn of the century, having practiced here from the year 1867. W. A. Smith, L.L.B., was the town's only solicitor, having commenced practice here in 1890. F. F. Luckham operated a photographer's studio, and Alex Brown, beginning in 1885, conducted his trade as a watchmaker and jeweller, being succeeded in later years by his son, Guy Brown.

Another bakery was operated beginning in 1897, by E. S. Nckerson, whose establishment included an ice cream and oyster parlour. M. B. Perdue, V.S., served the district as veterinary surgeon. Farm implements, carriages, wagons, and sleighs were sold by Arthur Conklin, whose sales in 1899, according to the Kingsville Reporter, were reaching almost \$10,000.00 yearly. Arthur Malott, beginning in 1895, conducted the Maple Leaf Laundry, which apparently was a thriving concern.

Three hotels served Kingsville in the 1890's. The Mettawas Hotel was by far the largest. The Pastoriis House, located on the present site of the Kingsville Hotel, began in 1884, and burned to the ground the following year. Owned by Alfred King and operated by Walter Pastoriis, and later by James E. Pastoriis, the hotel boasted "twenty-five large airy sleeping apartments". The Exchange Hotel was purchased from J. S. Siddle in 1899 by George Lario.

One dampening factor on Kingsville's bright existence of the 1890's was the filling in of the harbour with sand. Much of the time the harbour was useless because of the sand bars.



MAIN ST. WEST IN THE EARLY 1890'S

Quick's Store was burned in the late 1890's and was re-built in 1901. Here is shown the original three-storey Quick Store on the northwest corner. On the southwest corner are Dr. Andrew Wigle's Building, the Conklin Block, and the Grenville Block.

Political Leaders

Kingsville's local government was part of that of Gosfield Township until the village was incorporated in 1878. The first form of local government was the District Council for the District of Hesse (by then named "the Western District"), beginning in 1842 and following the Act of Union of 1841. Gosfield's representative on the district council was Josiah Strong. By the year 1844, township organization had proceeded somewhat. Richard Thornton was district councillor, Joseph Wigle was township clerk, John McDonald, assessor, Henry Scratch collector, and Prideaux Girty superintendent of schools. MacDonald's Atlas indicates that in 1845, Gosfield's representation in the district council was increased to four members, who were Andrew Stewart, William Sandford, and John C. Fox, Richard Thornton also continuing as councillor. Richard Thornton was succeeded in 1847 by Prideaux Girty.

The district councils were abolished by the Municipal Institutions Act of 1850, when the counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton were united under one county council. Gosfield's representative on the county council in that year was John Malotte. He was succeeded in 1851 by Joseph Malotte, and the following year by Henry Scratch, who seems to have held office until 1855, when replaced by Joseph

Coatsworth. Solomon Wigle was a representative from 1856 to 1867, Gosfield having a second representative commencing in 1862 in the person of Theodore Wigle, who sat until 1869. Henry Ruthven was a representative in 1868, and Daniel Wigle in 1870. William McCain succeeded Daniel Wigle in 1871, continuing as deputy reeve for several years. Theodore Wigle also continued as reeve, becoming warden of the county in 1874.

Kingsville's political history began on its own in 1878, when J. H. Smart became the first reeve, and thereby the village's representative on county council, continuing at least until 1881. Succeeding reeves during the period until 1901 were J. S. Middough, Gordon Wigle, S. A. King, W. G. Fox, Hubert Wigle, and Elihu Scratch. Village councillors in 1878 were William Wigle, John D. Malott, E. A. Pulford, and D. W. Canfield.

The town's incorporation was by Act of the legislature on March 25, 1901. No time was lost in holding elections, as the first town council meeting was on the following April 15. James H. Sweet was the first mayor, being succeeded during the next 50 years by S. L. McKay, Darius Wigle, W. A. Smith, Robert Healey, T. J. Salmoni, Hubert Wigle, Harry J. Cooper, W. M. Webb, Jesse Sherman, Fred Crawford, George Hall, L. C. Hillis, B. A. E. Clouse, F. O. Graham, W. D. Conklin, R. J. Voakes, and C. G. Loop. Morley Sanford, reeve of the town for several years, is Warden of Essex County for 1952.

A Kingsville citizen was Essex County's first member of the Ontario legislature. Solomon Wigle, M.P.P., defeated Alexander Cameron a Windsor lawyer, in the first provincial election of 1867, but was defeated by Albert Prince in the second election in 1871. Mr. Wigle owned a grist mill for many years on Main St. East on the site of Mrs. Bon Jasperson's present home. He also operated the stage coach out of Kingsville.

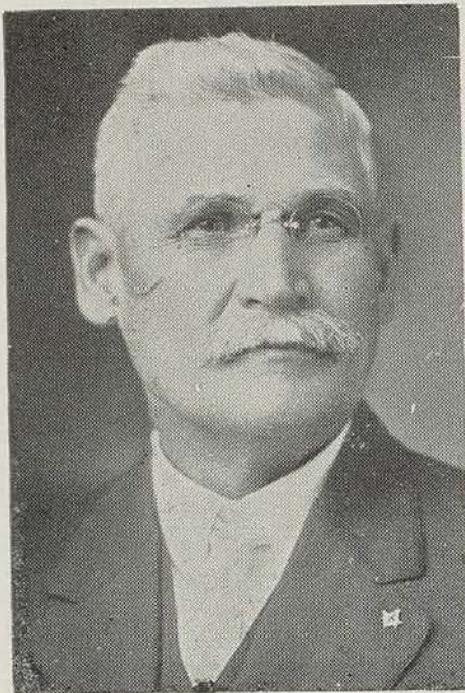
Lewis Wigle, M.P.P., a son of Solomon Wigle, was victorious in the provincial election of 1875 — the first election in which Essex County was divided into two ridings. Unseated on petition, Mr. Wigle was again elected in the by-election held later in the same year. He was again elected in the election of 1879, when he defeated J. D. Balfour of the Amherstburg Echo. Mr. Wigle later represented South Essex for several years in the House of Commons.

Lambert P. Wigle, M.P.P., was another Kingsville citizen to represent South Essex in the Ontario legislature. He was first elected in the general election of 1916, being defeated in 1919. Again in 1934 he was elected to the legislature, serving until 1938.

Austin B. Smith, Q.C., M.P.P., was South Essex member of the legislature during the years 1929 to 1934. Mr. Smith has been a life-long resident of Kingsville.

The first town hall is reported to have been built in 1852 on the location of T. J. Salmoni and Sons' Stores. Yet the civic dinner tendered to Arthur Rankin, M.P.P., in 1850 was held in the town

KINGSVILLE POLITICAL LEADERS



JUDSON SCRATCH
an eminent farmer of Gosfield South, retired to Kingsville and was a councillor and reeve for many years.



JAMES H. SWEET
respected blacksmith, was first mayor of the Town of Kingsville in 1901.



J. H. SMART
a leading business man from the late 1860's until the early 1930's. Kingsville's first village reeve in 1878.

hall. Thus a civic centre was maintained even before the formation of the United Counties of Essex and Kent. We should remember that even in 1850 the hamlet's population numbered 100.

The present town hall was built in 1883. Thomas E. Jenner was the building contractor, and his contract was for the price of \$8,875.00.

Kingsville's first post office was on the southwest corner of Main and Division Streets, in the store of Felix Lafferty, who was postmaster from 1852 until 1854. When Alexander McDonald bought the store he became postmaster, continuing until 1861. John Cooper and John Kennedy fulfilled terms as postmaster for three years and five years, respectively. Then for 42 years J. H. Smart held the office, during the years 1871 to 1913, when he was succeeded by E. A. Brown. Mr. Brown's term extended for 34 years, until 1948, when he was followed by John H. Robson, the present incumbent. For many years following erection of the present Quick Building in 1901, the post office occupied the northerly section of the store. Then it was moved to the premises now owned by Jackson's China Store, where it continued until the present building was erected in 1936.

CHAPTER IV

Industries and Trades

"There is always work, and tools to work with, for those who will"
—J. R. Lowell

BANKING

Long after Kingsville had become a sizeable community there were no banks here and people who needed the services of a bank had to go to Windsor or elsewhere. A great deal of business was done by cash which today would be done by cheque. Some of the banks in Windsor did from time to time appoint agents here to facilitate the transaction of business but not until the early 90's do we find the establishment of banks here. They were private banks of the type that were springing up in the smaller communities across Canada. Mr. J. H. Smart and Mr. Fraser Westcott were the first bankers in Kingsville. In 1896 there was still another private bank established by Mr. S. L. McKay and Mr. Bon Jasperson who carried on their partnership for two years when Mr. McKay sold out his interest to Mr. Jasperson. Mr. Jasperson continued the bank under his own name for some years.

The first chartered bank to come was the old Molson's Bank which on August 23, 1899, took over the Westcott Bank and began business in Kingsville with Mr. Westcott as its first accountant. In 1901, when the Conklin Building was constructed on the south east corner of Main and Division Streets, the Molson's Bank leased the corner section of the building which it and its successor have occupied ever since.

In 1906 another chartered bank came, the Union Bank with Mr. Joseph Anderson as manager. Its premises were on Main St. West where the Royal Bank is located today.

In 1919 a third bank came, the Bank of Montreal, and located in the building formerly occupied by Mr. Jasperson's bank in the Dr. Andrew Wigle Building. Incidentally, these premises today are Mr. Tom Scott's Barber Shop.

During the early 20's, Canada saw a period of bank mergers which led to the Bank of Montreal taking over the Molson's Bank and moving into the Molson's Bank premises in the Conklin Building, and the Royal Bank of Canada taking over the Union Bank, both in 1925.

Ever since the above mergers, Kingsville has been served by

these two banks, both of which have grown steadily. The last few years have seen an ever expanding staff in each of the banks with modern installations in fixtures and equipment not only for the convenience of the community but the efficient dispatch of business.

The present manager of the Royal Bank is Mr. R. S. Patterson, and of the Bank of Montreal, Mr. P. Iley.

ELECTRICITY IN KINGSVILLE

The first electric lights in Kingsville were turned on in 1898.

Kingsville Electric Light Company, of whom the partners were George and Bonzano Jasperson and David Conklin, supplied the power. The company served the town's arc lamps for street lighting as well as the incandescent lamps for private use in shops and residences.

The electric light plant was enlarged in 1899, indicating a growing demand for electricity. One of its first major customers was the Ontario Glass Company Limited. The electric power was generated by steam engine in a building on the south side of Main Street East.

The company sold its enterprise to the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, which later resold the plant to the Town of Kingsville in 1924. It is interesting that the Jasperson and Conklin Company supplied 60-cycle power and one of the reasons for the sale was that the Provincial commission could supply what was termed the new, improved 25-cycle power.

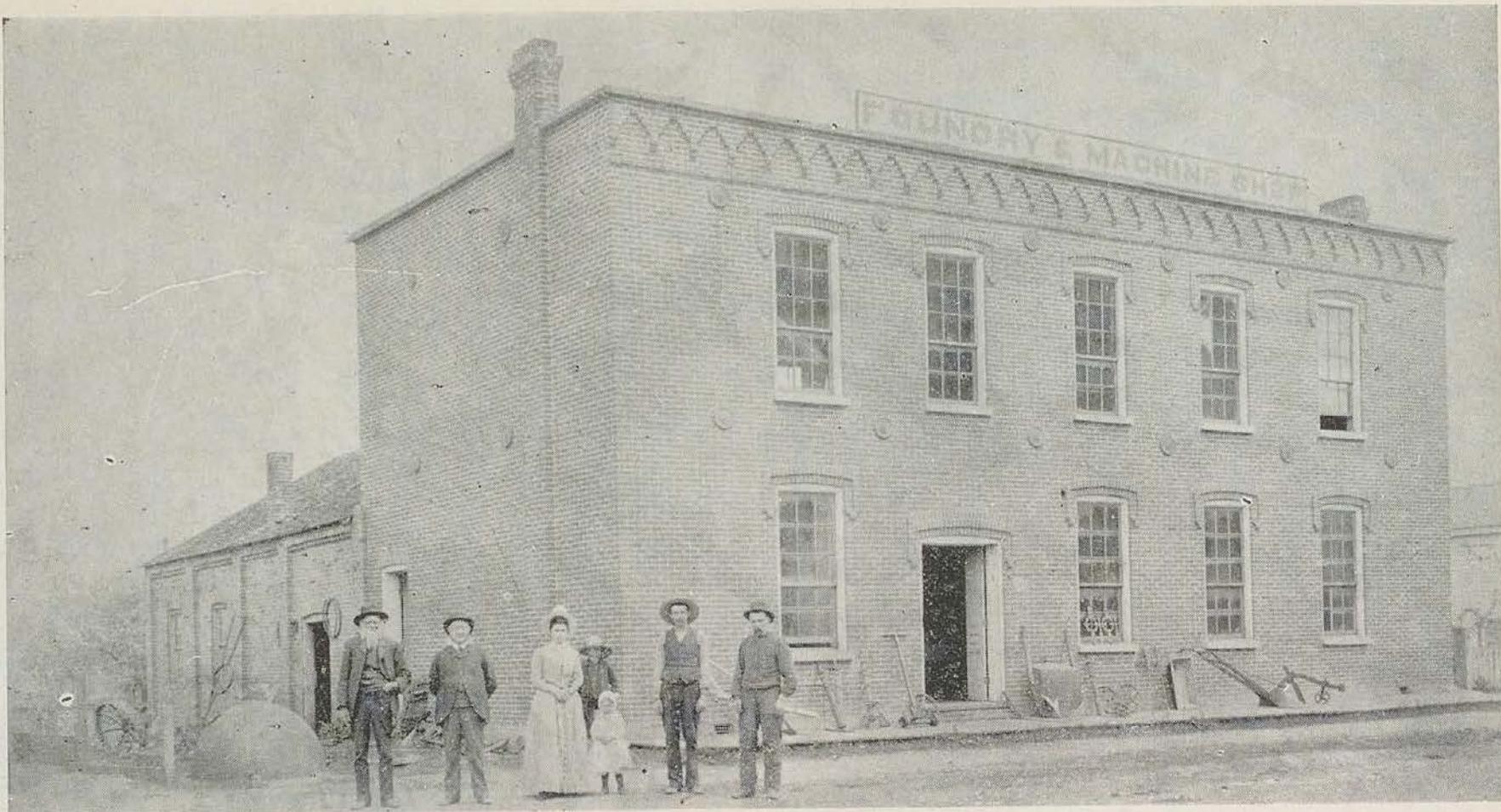
The Kingsville Public Utilities Commission was set up in 1925, to supervise the operation of the hydro and water-works systems. W. Morton Webb was the first chairman of the commission. Since that time, Robert Healey, Harry J. Cooper, E. R. McCay, G. W. Hogarth, and Delbert Quick have served as chairman.

GLASS MANUFACTURING

Glass manufacturing was commenced in Kingsville in the year 1898, when Ontario Glass Company, Limited began its operation. George W. Burkhardt was manager at first. A later manager was Halstead Warrick, uncle of C. F. Warrick, one of Kingsville's present summer residents. Chief proprietor was D. A. Gordon of Wallaceburg, father of St. Clair Gordon.

Natural gas appears to have been the attraction for the glass company, which had three tank furnaces heated with natural gas. Items manufactured by the glass company appear to have been bottles, and druggist sundries, insulators, battery jars, pickle and fruit jars, and all kinds of hollow-ware. These articles apparently were both blown and pressed. The factory included a mould, where moulds and tools were made.

The glass company had a short history, since it discontinued operation in the year 1903, when Mr. Gordon sold the premises to Conklin Planing Mills.



HENRY HARRIS' NEW FOUNDRY

Most present residents will remember the above Harris Foundry Building on Main Street West. It was built in 1870. The older Harris Foundry had been built before 1850 and was destroyed by fire in 1864.
Left to right: Henry Harris, unknown, Mrs. Owen (Ella) Harris, Mrs. Grace Robson, Owen Harris, William Craft.
Back: Everett Kennedy.

THE KINGSVILLE CO-OPERATIVE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION

Many co-operative efforts have been started over a long period of years by the farmers of the Kingsville and immediate township areas but few have survived. One of these few which began about 37 years ago was destined for outstanding growth and success.

During the year 1917 the Reverend Mr. Cousens, Messrs. Burwell Malott, Lambert Wigle, Stanley Wright and Norman Iler met in the California church and formed the Kingsville and Gosfield South Farmers' Club. The idea was that the farmers by banding themselves together into an organization could obtain supplies in quantity at lower prices and also deal with their problems more effectively. Meetings of the club were held every week alternately at California and Salem for about three years. The club took increasingly substantial orders for supplies and coal from its members and was soon purchasing from suppliers in car load lots. Great interest was shown at the meetings of the club and in the short space of three years, membership grew to nearly 100.

Success soon made it both possible and necessary to buy property in Kingsville where they constructed an elevator and office and incorporated themselves into a company under the name of The Kingsville Co-Operative Supply Company Limited. Orillian Allen became the first manager of the new company and remained in that office for two years when he was succeeded by Mr. Albert Golden who acted as manager continuously until his death in 1936. Great credit is due Mr. Golden for the manner in which he operated the company, for it is felt by many that under less able management during the years of depression the company might not have survived. The difficulties were great but the company came through solidly grounded for further expansion. Mr. Carl L. Bailey succeeded Mr. Golden and is still the manager. A further re-organization in 1946 saw the name changed once more, this time to The Kingsville Co-operative Supply Association.

It is during Mr. Bailey's term of management that the Association has seen its greatest era of growth. Membership now stands at approximately 350 with a yearly business of close to a million dollars. The facilities of the company have become extensive and varied. It operates a grain elevator with complete up-to-date grain drying equipment, a feed mill and seed cleaner. It retails coal, builders' supplies, fertilizers, farm machinery, fencing, farm chemicals, in fact everything needed to supply the farm trade. During the last two years new coal bins and a sizeable concrete warehouse have been erected with a hardware and general small-supplies department established in the basement of the warehouse. At the office on Mill Street there is a display room for electrical and other appliances. Practically every modern requirement of the urban and farm trade can now be met with prompt delivery or pick-up by its sizeable fleet of trucks handling the smallest of articles up to the largest quantities of grain.

The development and success of this company has meant much not only to the farmers but to the general welfare of the town.

THE KINGSVILLE REPORTER

In 1873, Dr. S. A. King, a son of Col. James King, founded The Kingsville Reporter in a frame building where McCay's appliance store is now. Dr. King was native to Kingsville, having been born in his father's house on the four corners in 1844, before there was even a Kingsville post office. After acquiring his medical degree at Victoria College in 1866, he spent three years at Drumbo, east of Woodstock, before returning to his native town. He married Esther Wigle, the daughter of Solomon Wigle.

About 1873 Dr. King, with the aid of a printer's devil, set up, edited and published a weekly edition of The Kingsville Reporter and continued to do so for about ten years. In the early 1880's S. T. Copus joined the paper and took over in 1889 when Dr. King became involved in the first gas company of the district. Four years later Mr. Copus followed Dr. King and the lure of the gas wells, leaving the Reporter in the hands of William H. Hellemes who was to guide its operations for half a century. He was forced to retire in 1938 due to ill health, leaving a colorful record of local influence and professional ability.

When Mr. Hellemes came to Kingsville it had no electric lights, no pavements, no waterworks, no park. It had board walks on the two main streets and dirt walks on the others. A water wagon kept the dust down. When he left his business in 1938, Kingsville was the modern town it is today.

While he ran the Reporter, Mr. Hellemes was highly regarded in the printing circles of Ontario and Canada for his ability, his scholarship and his kindly personality. He was an active and well known supporter of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association.

Locally, he served for many years on the Official Board of the Methodist Church which was built the year he came to Kingsville. He was known widely for his zealous work in promoting Prohibition and Local Option throughout Essex County. He died in 1943.

David P. Connery purchased the Reporter from Mr. Hellemes in 1938, and operated it for three years. During this time Mr. Connery constructed a new modern building to house the Reporter, and added greatly to its circulation. Several new machines were added and the shop thoroughly modernized. Mr. Connery left the Reporter to assume an executive office with the United Auto Workers Union in Detroit.

The Reporter's proprietors for the past 11 years have been Mr. C. O. Sims and Mr. W. D. Conklin. Mr. Conklin acts as associate editor and is responsible for the editorial column. Mr. Sims is editor and publisher. After several years with the Nelson Daily News, various western dailies and The Windsor Daily Star, Mr. Sims became

associated with the Reporter under Mr. Connery in 1939. He now enjoys the co-operation of a staff of about 10, printing 1450 copies of the Reporter weekly.

The editors of The Kingsville Reporter have the incentive of a wide reading public, scattered along the beaches in the summer time. It should be said, however, that through the entire year, they persevere in their efforts to foster an intelligent and well-informed reading community in Kingsville.

NATURAL GAS

Natural gas was emphasized in 1899 as the town's prime claim as a natural spot for manufacturing. The town at that time owned its own gas wells, and according to The Reporter of November 23, 1899, "has an abundance of land leased where it can sink new ones as they are required. The matter of properly controlling and regulating the pressure has been more of a problem than securing the natural flow..... A pressure of 400 pounds to the square inch is very common while 300 pounds is a very usual thing. The town realizing that this gas should be used for developing and building up of the place is very liberal in its treatment of manufacturing industries that will comply with the conditions and employ a certain amount of labour." Some industries in the 1890's were given free fuel, free water, and very liberal tax consideration. Gas for home heating was sold in 1899 at a flat rate of \$1.50 per month per stove during the winter season. Even at this low rate the municipality was able to secure a profit which, when applied to the running expenses of the town, reduced the taxes to a mere nominal figure on a very low assessed valuation of property. The village revenue from gas operations in 1899 reduced the tax rate by about four mills.

About the year 1885 Mr. James Coste, a resident of Amherstburg and a student of geology, advanced the theory that this locality being in a direct line with the oil and natural gas fields of Ohio would naturally be on the same vein and therefore possessed of the same elements of nature. During the next ten years many gas wells were drilled in the district. By 1899 the pressure had not diminished to any appreciable extent. Output of the wells was handled chiefly by Ontario Natural Gas and Oil Company, supplying Windsor and Detroit, and the Kingsville Natural Gas and Oil Co., supplying Ruthven and Kingsville. The village of Kingsville purchased the assets of Kingsville Gas and Oil Co. in 1897 for the sum of \$27,000.00. It is interesting that in the following year the village council sent a resolution earnestly urging the Federal Government to totally prohibit the export of natural gas from Essex County to the United States. Such exports were discontinued finally in 1901.

Gas production fell drastically in 1903, when many wells were flooded with salt water which pushed up from levels below those of the gas wells. The wells in the Kingsville area have become gradually less productive until at the present time very little is produced.

Kingsville Gas Co. apparently was the only producer of gas in the Kingsville district for several years following 1903. President of this company was George Jasperson, Manager was Bon Jasperson and Secretary-Treasurer, S. L. McKay. This company sold its assets on June 10, 1909, to Beaver Oil and Gas Co. of Brantford, the sale price being \$25,000.

Bon Jasperson continued to develop gas wells in the Kingsville district during the 1920's and supplied residents in the southeast section of the town. Later Mr. Jasperson sold his undertakings to Dominion Gas Co. The Beaver company meanwhile had sold to Southern Ontario Gas Co., which in turn sold to the Dominion Co.

The town of Kingsville still owns most of the pipe lines in the town, but Dominion Gas Co. is the only holder of a franchise for supplying gas. Most gas now comes apparently from the artificial gas plant at St. Thomas. The day may not be far distant when Kingsville will be supplied with natural gas from Alberta or Texas.

SAWMILLING AND WOODWORKING

There appear to have been four sawmills in the Kingsville district in the late 1880's. The Canfield mill, operated on the east side of Division Street, was sold in 1885 to George W. Green. The sawmill machinery was moved to the back of the building to make way for a tobacco operation about the year 1902, and woodworking in the mill ended about the year 1906. Wagon gearing and sleigh runners were among the enterprise's chief products.

A second sawmill and lumber yard operated in Kingsville was known as Kingsville Lumber Yard. This yard was conducted on Queen Street in the 1880's by Messrs. Tofflemire and Lane. About the year 1890 this partnership purchased a sawmill on the fourth concession of Gosfield South, selling the Kingsville Lumber Yard to Leonard Malott.

The third sawmill of the 1880's in the Kingsville district was that of Mr. Grainger on the fourth concession, which was sold in the early 1890's to Messrs. Tofflemire and Lane.

The fourth mill was that of David Conklin, at the corner of Division Road and the fourth concession road. He purchased this mill about the year 1885 from Colin Wigle and J. H. Smart. During the 1890's he greatly expanded the mill and its machinery. To support his operation he purchased 700 acres of timbered land, about one-half of this being the Cameron and Curry properties. By the year 1899, Mr. Conklin was employing over 25 persons in and about the mill, producing about two million feet of lumber yearly. Some of this production was used locally, but most was shipped out to Detroit, Buffalo, Toronto, and Montreal. In addition to the sawmill, planing mill, and modern dry-kiln, according to the Kingsville Reporter of November 23, 1899, "dressed lumber, mouldings, picture frames, scroll sawing, wood turning, etc." were carried on. David

Conklin was joined in his enterprise about the year 1893 by his son, William T. Conklin. In the year 1903 the sawmilling and planing mill businesses were separated. The planing mill machinery was moved to Kingsville to its present location in the glass factory building, under the management of William T. Conklin. The planing mill business was incorporated by William T. Conklin in the year 1925, its operations expanding steadily, now being the headquarters for five other retail lumber yards and planing mills operated by Mr. Conklin in Essex County.

Wilfred Duggan conducted a carpenter shop and planing mill for several years at the southeast corner of Prince Albert and Main Streets. In the late 1890's and early 1900's Leonard Malott was associated with Mr. Duggan in the making of doors and sash. This business discontinued in 1904.

A retail lumber business was carried on by Elihu Scratch, beginning in 1887. This business was operated in conjunction with his coal and wood business on the property adjoining his residence on Division Street, now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Hackett.

Still another lumber yard was operating in the 1880's and 1890's under the proprietorship of Thomas Drake. This business was on Park Street.

Carpenter shops were operated during this period by William Longland where John Gresser's house is now located on Main Street West, and by Richard Gregory at the present location of Max Hamachuk's garage. Mr. Longland's machinery was run by horsepower. Mr. Gregory is famous in local legend by his custom of sleeping in the caskets which he made and sold on the premises.

As mentioned earlier under the subject of "Early Mills," a sawmill was operated for several years in conjunction with the grist mill at the present location of Covell's Hardware. There is some authority for believing that this mill was operated by waterpower, but possibly this is not correct. Steam power was used at an early date, and natural gas was substituted for power in the 1890's. This mill was conducted for many years by Gordon Wigle, who sold to Frank Scratch and Orley Smith's father in the early 1890's, they in turn selling to John Vizard.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY

Although the production of tobacco in Canada is generally considered a fairly modern occupation, tobacco was cultivated by the aborigines and likewise by the first settlers. It is interesting to note that, as early as 1738, some Roman Catholic Priests objected to the increasing yields since, under law, they were unable to collect tithes on crops other than grain. We do not know just when Essex County settlers first began to grow tobacco, but by 1871 their annual production was reported at 250 thousand pounds.

The earliest growers air-cured the leaves and used them in

their raw state, but later followed the established practices of the Southern States in producing more than their own requirements, and for some years exported their surplus to other districts, even including the United States. But American production of tobacco increased by leaps and bounds from 219 million pounds in 1839 to 438 million pounds in 1859 and to 800 million pounds at the close of the century, while Canadians were by then importing properly dried leaf for their own increased population demand.

At about this time, experienced Southern growers, travelling through Essex County, became interested in the potential of what they formerly considered frigid north lands, and influenced local business men to tap this promising new source of wealth. One such business man, named Wilson, who had had many years of experience in the American tobacco industry, formed the company of Wilson and Bailey for the purpose of buying the tobacco from growers, sorting it into grades suitable for the manufacturer, drying it so that it might be preserved and aged, and packing it into hogsheads in such a manner, according to the Kingsville Reporter of 1899, "that it cannot only be shipped with safety and freedom from losses, but also that it will actually improve in flavour and value." This firm aimed, even at this early date, to avoid, "an excited market, caused by an excess or shortage of crops, an unusually severe frost, or the many circumstances incident on the fluctuation of this northern climate." They further anticipated changing the custom of the two largest manufacturers of tobacco in Canada, who were by then refusing to utilize Canadian tobaccos which were not properly prepared.

Messrs. Wilson and Bailey tried unsuccessfully to secure the building which is now owned by the Canadian Canners Ltd., and then arranged with the L.E. & D.R. Railway for a factory to be constructed on the west side of Lansdowne Ave., south of the railroad tracks. This building is presently owned by Consolidated Leaf Tobacco Co. Ltd. It appears to have been quickly built and occupied in March 1900 by George Jasperson, while Wilson and Bailey set up operations in the front, or westerly part, of the Green Sawmill, later known as the Old Red Barn, located on the east side of Division Street about where the T. J. Salmoni and Mrs. J. Whittle homes stand today. This firm not only dried crops, but also attempted for some years the manufacture of cigars and chewing tobacco. Later, upon dissolution, Mr. Bailey became associated with the Ross Leaf Tobacco Co.

At about the same period, Dr. S. A. King and Mr. W. E. DeLong became interested in the tobacco outlook, and together with others formed a processing plant in what was then known as the Evaporator Plant which had been used by a Mr. Roblin of Belleville for the drying of apples and other produce which could be preserved by such means. The evaporator was well suited to the drying of tobacco types common at that time, for the process was to remove sufficient vegetable matter from the raw leaf and replace the exact amount of moisture attendant with the preservation, under proper

storage conditions, of tobacco throughout the years required for the attainment of chemical maturity. However, it was but a pioneer effort towards convincing manufacturers that Canadian tobaccos could be developed to a commercially competitive standard, and was subsequently abandoned. Soon after, the premises were used by the Erie Tobacco Co. Ltd., who were forced to dissolve after a serious fire in 1918.

The Erie Tobacco Company Ltd., with John S. Bruner as president, Gordon Fox as vice-president, and E. J. Wigle, Colin Neville and George Fox as directors, had started on March 24, 1900, when it arranged with Mr. Jasperson for the use of his building. He simply moved immediately to the west into a frame building he had constructed to run north and south. This building was later destroyed by fire, and upon Mr. Jasperson again constructing in a new location on the east side of Lansdowne opposite Maple Street, it was rebuilt by Darius Wigle and later formed part of the Consolidated Leaf Tobacco Company premises. Following the Erie Tobacco Company's occupation was an operation into the 1920's by a farmers' co-operative. It came into the possession of the Consolidated Leaf Company in 1931.

The Essex Tobacco Company was organized in his new location by George Jasperson in 1919 and was re-organized into the Hodge Tobacco Company of Canada Ltd. in 1925. This firm is not only still operating, but has greatly expanded throughout the years, installing in 1952 some of the most modern machinery known to the industry.

The Evaporator Plant was rebuilt in the 1920's and used for a time by a Company extracting nicotine products from tobacco. This company was under the management of a Mr. Hyatt, who soon moved to his own building, on the east side of Lansdowne opposite Myrtle Street, where a fire ultimately halted his operations. From time to time since, attempts have been made to extract nicotine by-products of tobacco on a commercial basis, but with no success. McIllroy Building Co. Ltd. took over the Evaporator Plant about the year 1924, producing canvas belting products until about 1931. In 1932 a modern tobacco redrying machine was installed in the building by the Ontario Leaf Tobacco Co. Ltd., which operated for about two years. Then Intercounty Tobacco Growers Ltd. took over in 1935, continuing operation with an associated company, Continental Leaf Tobacco Co. Ltd., until the present time.

In the year 1923, an English firm, Ross Leaf Tobacco Co., established a plant on Park Street at the top of the harbour hill, just west of the old W.E.&L.S. powerhouse. A large boarding house was later added to the residence portion to house women workers brought from England. After several years, this company returned to England and its building is presently owned by the Likins Storage and Tobacco Co. Ltd.

McLean Tobacco Co. Ltd. has also occupied several locations in Kingsville over many years, its last building being located on Main St. East. Though not active at present, it was noted as having not only processed tobacco, but had manufactured and distributed its own products.

Until the time of World War I, the chief types of tobacco grown were Burley, an air-cured variety, and some dark types. After this time, the light sandy soils of the lake shore region made possible the switch to flue-cured, or bright Virginia type cigarette tobacco which was coming into greater demand. But, by the time of World War II, the new agricultural development of the former waste lands of Norfolk and adjacent counties, together with the increasing value of Essex County lands for early produce, had arrested further expansion of tobacco growing in this district.

THE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY

The woollen industry in Kingsville goes back to a day when sheep raising was an important branch of agriculture in this area, when greenhouses, early vegetables, soy beans and irrigation were not even a dream. In this industry we see some of the earliest developments of the co-operative idea put to use by farmers.

In the 1840's there were several carding mills in the county: one in Amherstburg at Fraser's Dock, one on the old Pike Road in Malden, one in Windsor near Aylmer Avenue, one at Ruthven in an old saw mill and one in Kingsville.

The one at Kingsville was owned by Henry Harris and was situated on Mill Creek west of Greenhill cemetery.

The work done by these early mills was that of carding wool into rolls which were delivered out to the wives of farmers in the area to be spun into yarn.

The process of making cloth in this fashion was very slow and to improve the situation, the farmers of Gosfield formed a Woolen Mill Company and constructed a new mill on the north side of Mill Creek at its junction with the east side of Division Street. The mill was three and a half storeys high, 44'x66' with an addition 33'x44' added some time later. Another mill of about the same size was constructed at Ruthven.

These new mills were a definite boon to the farmers and their wives because they could bring their wool to the mills and obtain credit, using it as they needed to for blankets, sheeting, tweeds, flannels and yarn for knitting sox and stockings. How long these mills operated on the above basis is not clear. The Kingsville mill apparently closed first and was last operated by Devitt and Davis from Waterloo. The Ruthven mill continued for a few years longer when Messrs. J. E. Brown and J. W. Bird, two employees of the Ruthven Mill decided to purchase the Kingsville mill.

The machinery in the Kingsville mill had all been sold some time prior to the purchase by Brown and Bird and Mr. Brown went to Ohio where he bought out a mill and brought the machinery to Kingsville. He installed it in 1882 which marks the beginning of the Brown, Bird and Company in the manufacture of woollen cloth.

The firm operated for ten years doing "merely a local business principally in custom work", then was re-organized under the name of Brown and Wigle (Mr. Horace Wigle) when it began to specialize in the manufacture of blankets on a wholesale basis. A considerable amount of new machinery was added at this time and again in 1897 along with factory expansion when the old partnership was incorporated as a limited company.

The trade mark of Aue Saxony blankets developed by this company became famous throughout Canada. The Klondyke gold rush of 1898 produced a tremendous demand for heavy blankets and the Kingsville mill turned out enormous quantities of blankets in black, red, blue, tan and brown to meet this demand. In the year 1898 it manufactured no less than 10,000 pairs of blankets and used 80,000 pounds of wool. At the same time it was also manufacturing blanket cloth for ladies' and children's coats in several colours.

By 1899 the firm had 20 employees the year round and the officers of the company were J. E. Brown, president; Horace Wigle, vice-president; J. E. Brown, manager, and E. A. Brown, secretary-treasurer.

At the end of this year more machinery was purchased. Business continued to thrive, soon necessitating still more machinery and factory space. Encouraging the production of finer grades of wool, the company awarded prizes at the county fairs for the best sheep produced in the district. The quality of the Brown products became known far and wide. The story of the company is one of continuous growth through to 1923 when a disastrous fire destroyed the mill completely. The mill was never rebuilt and the woollen manufacturing industry in Kingsville, unfortunately, came to an end. The site of the former mill is now occupied by Mr. Alvin Sanford's garage, service station and residence.

CHAPTER V

Kingsville's Churches

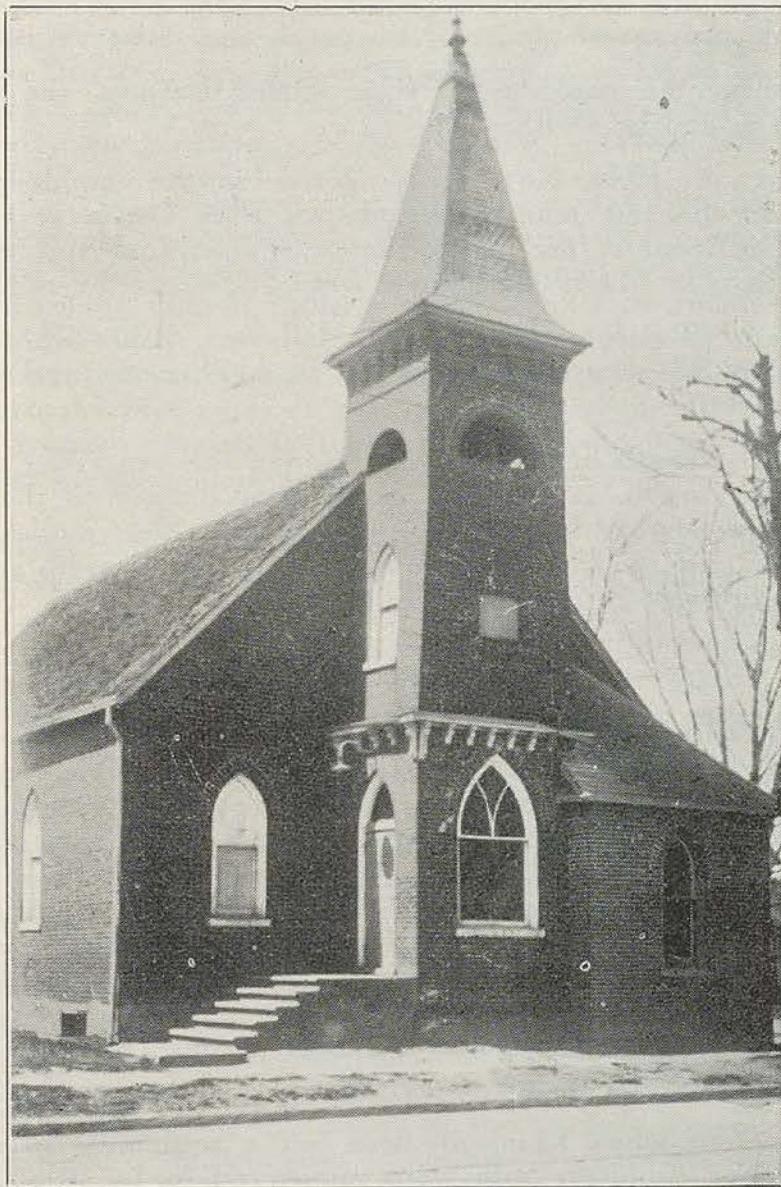
"Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens"—
Daniel Webster

The Faith of our fathers is largely the story of courageous and independent pioneers who disciplined themselves in a strong Christian faith and built not only churches in which to worship but also founded families of character whose sense of freedom, self reliance, and responsibility to their neighbours for decency and charity, actually laid the foundation on which this community was built. No community in Canada has a more typical Canadian background or spirit than Kingsville; and no community bears greater witness to the strength of democratic freedom of worship or to that enduring hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still!"

THE BAPTIST CHURCH

The first Christian preaching in Kingsville was done by Richard Herrington, who settled in what was then Gosfield Township, and who purchased all the land on the east side of Division Street, from Lake Erie northward beyond what is now Main Street. Immediately after building his log cabin, Mr. Herrington built a log church for the worship of God, near where the Casino now stands at the Lake. The original site of the church has been lost with the encroachment of Lake Erie. The settlement of Gosfield (now Albertville) showed signs of being permanent and Richard Herrington became one of the leading members and deacons of the Baptist Church there. It was in the Gosfield Church that he was ordained. From his home in Kingsville, Mr. Herrington travelled far afield, preaching the Good News. "From the Detroit River to the Township of Euphemia he ranged on horseback, a great deal of the time through almost impassable roads, and often leaping from log to log by means of a strong staff, where a horse could not go. His parish was as wide as his means of travelling." He not only was the moving spirit of the work at Gosfield, but he was a charter member of the Second Colchester Church, and led in the formation of the William St. Baptist Church of Chatham. Indirectly, through the Gosfield Church, he shared in the organization of the Leamington Baptist Church.

In 1847 the present auditorium was constructed by Alex Gustin (Augustine). It was of frame construction and seated 300 people. Elder Charles Stewart donated the land. His son had married Elder Herrington's daughter Polly, and owned the land on the west side of Division Street, from the Lake northward beyond the present building. The pulpit was elevated over what is now the entrance to the church.



KINGSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

The oldest church auditorium in which services still are held is that of the Baptist Church. The main building was erected in 1847, being bricked over in 1900.

In 1883 the building was remodelled. The pulpit was moved to the west end of the church, and two rooms were placed at the east end. People entered the church between these two rooms.

In 1900 the auditorium was bricked over, the bricks being made by Jack Miner, the famous Kingsville naturalist, who made the Miner Bird Sanctuary.

Under the leadership of Rev. John Galt, the present parsonage was built in 1908 at a total cost of \$2,250.

In 1920, when Rev. E. C. Gosnell led the church, the build-

ing was raised and the basement, now used as a Sunday School Hall, was placed underneath. Most of the work was done voluntarily.

During the pastorate of Rev. Alfred Burgess, the minister's study was added in 1940.

Then in 1944, Rev. F. M. Ward led the church in the installation of the two manual Woodstock Pipe Organ at a cost of \$3,000. The front of the auditorium was renovated and two years later the Deagan Memorial Chimes were added to the organ.

In 1948 a fine new Church Hall was dedicated, providing extra Sunday School space, a wash room, kitchenette, and space for midweek activities.

The strength of this Church through the years has been that of vigorous growth. It has the strongest of links with the past of Kingsville, its history being coupled with the oldest names in Gosfield South and its building resting on ground cleared and given by those who were resolute in their faith.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The large oak trees which shade the Cenotaph on the grounds of the Church of the Epiphany have witnessed the whole story of the Church of England in Kingsville. All the generations of the church have passed under these trees. The Cenotaph, which was erected by the Canadian Legion and on which are recorded the names of all those who made the supreme sacrifice in World Wars I and II, bears witness to the valour of men of all faiths who fought and died for the quiet dignity of a free life in this land. In the little cemetery to the north of the church are tombstones marking the years from 1851, in silent testimony to those who have meant so much to the church in whose shadow they rest.

In 1806 when Kingsville was but a settlement in a forest, people of the Anglican faith were ministered to by Rev. Richard Pollard of Sandwich who came sometimes by water, sometimes by horse, at no stated times, to baptize, marry, and bury.

From 1820 until 1842 the settlement was served by Rev. Dr. Sandys, who was rector of a small parish on the Thames River (now Chatham), and in charge of all mission services extending west. It was during this period that one of the earliest permanent residents of Kingsville, Captain Andrew Stewart, the father of the late Mrs. Lucinda McLean and Mrs. Mary Helen Rae, who contributed so much to the development of the church, donated the land on which the present church and cemetery stand. A small clearing was made and a log hut erected where services were held.

In 1842 Kingsville was created into the Parish of St. John and united with the Parish of Colchester under Rev. F. G. Elliott. As the people prospered, so did the church.

When a new church was planned, William Drake, a carpenter

by trade, cut and hewed timbers from the great oak trees nearby. In 1852, the modest church named St. John's was completed. The pews were of a box type from native lumber. The choir stalls and organ were in the gallery at the back of the church. Large box wood-stoves heated the buildings and wall-bracket kerosene lamps provided light.

Local parish government was now established. Colonel James King (after whom Kingsville was named and whose descendants are active in the church today) became the first rector's warden. Jasper Golden, who was made a licensed Lay Reader and acted as Sunday School Superintendent until his death in 1916 at the age of 94, became the first people's warden. The descendants of this stalwart old Irish gentleman in the past and at the present time have contributed greatly to the growth of the parish.

As a matter of historical record, the rectors who served Kingsville while combined with Colchester are as follows: 1842-63 Rev. F. G. Elliott; 1863-67 Rev. Robert Fletcher; 1868-74 Rev. John Downie; 1874-75 Rev. Charles Green; 1876-79 Rev. Richard Johnstone; 1879-80 Rev. Edward Lewis; 1880-81 Rev. J. Holmes; 1881-83 Rev. Henry Banwell; 1883-84 Rev. J. W. Ashman; 1884-96 Rev. Canon C. R. Mathew.

Shortly after Canon C. R. Mathew came, the building of the present brick rectory and stable was completed at a cost of \$3525.00. In 1889 the Bishop finally separated Kingsville from the Parish of Colchester and plans were made to build a new church with the old church to become the Sunday School and Parish Hall. John A. Maycock drew up the design, and in January 1891 during the season of The Epiphany, the ground was broken for the new church. In June the Masonic Order under the leadership of Dr. Edward Allworth, then master of the Lodge and a devout member of the church, conducted the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone. At this ceremony the Rev. J. W. Ashman, who had been rector just prior to Canon Mathew and who had contributed generously in money to the building of the church, preached the special sermon. His gift, incidentally, was in memory of his son who lies buried in front of the church where a stone near the base of the foundation marks the grave.

On All Saints' Day, November 1, 1891, Bishop Baldwin dedicated the Church and the name of the Parish changed from St. John's to Epiphany, to commemorate the day on which the first sod was turned. Dr. Edward Allworth and Jasper Golden became the first wardens of the newly named parish.

Towards the end of the century the strength of the Church had grown with two mission churches, one at Ruthven and one at Grainger, being added to its jurisdiction. The mission at Ruthven has long since been absorbed but the one at Grainger, made possible originally by the generosity of the late James Barnet, still continues.

In the present century the church has progressed in size and

beauty. The old church, which served as Parish Hall and Sunday School for so long, was replaced in 1921 by a new brick building joined to the church. In 1949 the ladies of the Parish installed a new and completely modernized kitchen in the basement. And in the same year the present organ with its chimes was installed to commemorate all those of the Parish who served in World Wars I and II. The memorial plate, altar, sacred vessels, furnishings, plaques, and windows added through the years, are in themselves pages out of the history of the church, and add a simple beauty and dignity to this peaceful, ivy-covered parish church.

Again, as a matter of historical record, the rectors who have served the Parish of the Epiphany are as follows: 1891-96 Rev. Canon C. R. Mathew; 1896-97 Rev. Edward Softly; 1897-1904 Rev. C. A. Anderson; 1904-05 Rev. J. F. Newton; 1905-08 Rev. E. C. Jennings; 1908-09 Rev. C. K. Masters; 1909-13 Rev. W. H. Moore; 1913-22 Rev. Jas. M. Horton; 1922-33 Rev. S. P. Irwin; 1933-48 Rev. J. A. Davies; 1948-52 Rev. John Morris.

THE GOSPEL TABERNACLE

The local congregation of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada dates back to the year 1937. At that time a weekly service was commenced under the supervision of Rev. Wm. Fitch, who then was Pastor of both the Essex and Leamington congregations. At first, the small congregation met in the Public Library building, but a short time later it moved to an upstairs auditorium in the building which is now occupied by the Canadian Legion.

A Sunday School was opened by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Saunders in January of 1940 with a most encouraging growth from the start. During its first year, the local Sunday School was awarded a banner for the greatest Sunday School advance among all the Schools of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada in Western Ontario.

In September of 1940, Rev. M. F. Cornelius came to be the first resident minister of the Kingsville Gospel Tabernacle. He continued as its Pastor until 1944 when he received a call to Chatham. It was during his ministry that the present building was erected in 1942 on Beech Street. At that time both the inadequacy of the upstairs auditorium and the sale of the premises made such a move necessary.

Other Pastors of the Tabernacle have been S. Clemance for one year; Rev. J. MacDonald for more than three years; Rev. J. Tubby for three years, and the present minister Rev. H. Cracknell who moved to this town less than one year ago.

The Church services of the Tabernacle are friendly and informal with an emphasis on the old-fashioned Gospel. It has made and will continue to make a definite contribution to the life of the community.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The first attempts to gather the scattered Lutherans into a congregation began in the depression years. The Rev. H. Fehner and Rev. Geo. Mueller of Detroit had conducted services occasionally in the Town Hall of Kingsville, but when World War II broke out, conditions worsened and the effort faced abandonment. It was then that the Rev. H. J. Storm of Windsor took charge and in his own inimitable way succeeded in rallying the discouraged group about him. The actual organization of the congregation took place on January 25, 1942, in the Town Hall. A constitution was drawn up and signed by about two dozen men. Regular services every Sunday were instituted and the little flock took on new life under Mr. Storm's capable leadership.

As the congregation grew in membership, the desire for a church of their own increased. On October 30, 1944, the first steps were taken to acquire their own property, by purchasing three lots on Spruce Street, at the Church's present location. On July 22, 1945, the decision was reached to build a chapel, according to the plan submitted by the architect J. C. Pennington of Windsor. David Roemich and George Mesz were placed in charge of construction but wartime restrictions greatly limited the size and the cost of the building. Volunteer groups from Windsor and Kingsville helped to keep the cost within the limits set by the governmental authorities.

The dedication of the chapel took place on December 23, 1945, with two special services conducted by Rev. Storm with the Rev. Norman Brandt of Detroit as guest speaker. The choirs of Windsor and Kingsville rendered special selections, with H. E. Geisel, guest organist, and Mrs. Ethel Stehli, guest soloist. On that memorable day large crowds were served dinner and supper by the ladies of the church. Among the many donations of church furnishings by individuals, special mention should be made of the Minshall Electric Organ donated by the Young People as their particular project, and the carpeting of the Chancel and aisles undertaken by the ladies. Since the Sanctuary had been furnished in a churchly manner, the members proceeded with the basement, to provide a meeting hall for the various organizations, and to set up a modern kitchen for banquets and fowl suppers, that have been well patronized by the Kingsville folk.

With the closing of the war and the subsequent opening of the doors of Canada to the many refugees and displaced persons of Europe, the membership increased sufficiently to give thought to becoming self-sustaining and calling a pastor of its own. After several attempts to secure a man who could minister to them, not only in their mother tongue, but also in the language of their adopted land, they successfully called the Rev. W. H. Wentzlaff of Tavistock, a native of Ottawa, to be their first resident pastor. He was inducted into office on May 1, 1949. Due to the housing shortage, it was necessary for the pastor to leave his family behind in Tavistock. The following Sunday, the decision was made to begin at once the erection of a par-

sonage next to the church. This project was made possible by the kind offer of the Conklin Lumber Co. to furnish all supplies on credit and to hold the mortgage at a moderate rate of interest. Much free labor went into the construction of this fine home. The members feel grateful also to the merchants and tradesmen of Kingsville for their assistance, either in cash donations, or in credits granted, and to the kind citizens for their fine support of the various enterprises of the church. This all helped to speed up the erection of the parsonage so that in three months after ground-breaking, the pastor and his family were able to move in, on August 23, 1949.

First Lutheran is somewhat unique in this respect, that its membership is made up almost entirely of European stock, people from Yugoslavia, Rumania, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, and Germany, all united in a common cause —to worship the Lord, who has brought them, and to build His Kingdom. They consider it one of the greatest blessings, to find here, not only a haven of refuge from the horrors they have escaped and a safe place to begin life anew, with revived hope and courage, but also, the freedom to worship God according to their conscience, unmolested, and the privilege of aligning themselves with other churches in fighting the battles of the Lord.

THE EPWORTH UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

The beginning of Methodism in this area is the story of saddle-back missionaries travelling great distances to bring religious worship to scattered settlements. Nathan Bangs in 1804 appears to be the first missionary into Essex County. An account of one of his visits to a settler's house where people had gathered to hear him, describes him as saying: "I am a Methodist preacher and our manner of worship is to stand up and sing, and kneel in prayer, then I stand up and preach while the people sit. As many of you as see fit to join me in this method, can do so. If not, you can choose your own method."

The first church building was a log hut constructed just east of Kingsville. An account of this event in an old document is almost a family chronicle. "Now in the year 1817, when the children of Leonard Kratz and Wendel Wigle had greatly increased and multiplied in the land, and when Wendel, the friend of Leonard, had died and been gathered to his fathers, Leonard called his sons and his daughters and his sons-in-law and his daughters-in-law, and the sons and daughters of Wendel, his departed friend, and said unto them, "It has been our custom for these many years, to worship the God of our fathers in the house of Wendel the Weaver; let us now, I pray you, build a house of the Lord in the Land of Gosfield, over against the lake that is called Erie"; and the children of Leonard and Wendel said unto their aged father, "Thou has spoken well, we will do according to thy words and build a house of the Lord." And Peter, the son of Leonard, gave the ground for the house of the Lord; and Leonard, his father being rich in money and in cattle, gave largely to

build the house; and in the year 1818 the house of the Lord was finished, and in the seventh month, in the sixth day of the month, in the first day of the week, and at the tenth hour of the day, Warren, the Priest, dedicated the house of the Lord, which the descendants of Leonard and Wendel had built and the people said, "Amen". (Warren, above referred to was Elijah Warren, a missionary of the Thames Circuit.)

Many missionaries came to the area, first working out of London, then Detroit. In 1826 a new circuit was formed called the Amherstburg Circuit which included Gosfield Township; then in 1833, the separate circuit of Gosfield.

The log hut built in 1818 no longer met the needs of the congregation, and 1842 saw a new frame church built on the north side of Main Street just east of the Kingsville Hotel.

As the settlement increased in population, the church attendance grew, and by 1866 another new and separate circuit was created and named The Kingsville Circuit. A larger church became necessary. The old church was removed to make way for a new brick one completed in 1869 during the pastoral term of the Rev. Ezra Stafford. Once again more accommodation became necessary and in 1893 during the pastorate of Rev. Jasper Wilson, another church was built, this time on Division Street South where the church now stands. In 1908 the present parsonage was added; in 1922 the Memorial Hall by public subscription to meet the growing needs of a greatly enlarged Sunday School and the many social activities of the church.

June 10th, 1925, marks another important date. The Church then known as the Epworth Methodist Church became a unit in the newly created United Church of Canada.

Many of the residents of the town well remember the 4th day of April 1935 when disaster struck and burned the church to the ground. Only Memorial Hall and the parsonage survived. But typical of the spirit of the congregation all through its history, on the evening after the fire the official board convened to lay plans for the future. The Rev. J. M. Colling was then the minister and under his guidance and leadership the congregation responded magnificently and a new and even more beautiful church was erected and dedicated on April 19th, 1936, barely more than a year after the fire, at a moving ceremony presided over by the president of the London Conference.

All the old memorial windows, organ and fittings were replaced and new ones added. The list of generous donors which has made the beauty of this church possible is very long and but further evidence of the corporate strength of the congregation.

Many outstanding men have served as pastors here, men who have gone on to great achievement not only in the church but in the country. As a matter of historical record the names of all the pastors in the Kingsville circuit are set forth below.

1866, Thomas Atkinson and William Magwood; 1867, Thos. Atkinson and Mathew Robinson; 1868, Thomas Atkinson and George Clarke; 1869, Ezra A. Stafford and Edwin McCollum; 1870, Ezra A. Stafford; 1871, Ezra A. Stafford; 1872-75, David Hunt; 1875-78, William C. Watson with W. H. Russell, A. C. Chambers and Sam C. Eby, assistants; 1878-81 Thomas D. Pearson; 1881-84, Wm. Godwin; 1884-86, Reuben Millvard; 1886-89, Walter Rigsby; 1889-91, William Bryers; 1891-94, Jasper Wilson; 1894-97, William McDonagh; 1897-1900, R. D. Hamilton; 1900-04, Benjamin Clement; 1904-07, H. D. Moyer; 1907-11, W. E. Millson; 1911-14, D. E. Martin; 1914-18, George A. King; 1918-21, J. E. J. Millyard; 1921-25, J. W. Hibbert; 1925-32, J. A. Agnew; 1932-33, W. H. Raney; 1933-38, J. M. Colling; 1938-40, D. A. Cowan; 1940-49, J. T. Flemming; 1949 to date, J. T. P. Nichols.

It can well be said that resolute and faithful men and women have laid the foundation upon which this church was built and is building today.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

In the summer of 1930, Mr. Fred Alice, on No. 18 Highway, west of Kingsville, donated almost an acre of land on which the first chapel of the Catholic Church of Kingsville was to be built. The chapel, which seated about 125 persons, was completed in 1930 and used for the first time.

This Kingsville Catholic Church was made a mission and was directed by Leamington with Father Finn in charge. Since he was ill, Father F. J. Williams, a retired priest from North Bay, Ontario, Diocese who was residing in Kingsville, was asked to take charge of the Kingsville Mission.

In June 1941, Rev. Fred M. Doll was appointed curate of St. Michael's Leamington, and for three years he looked after the Kingsville Mission. When he was appointed administrator of the Kingsville Mission in July, 1944, the Mission became a parish with a resident priest.

In 1945 the basement of the new church was completed, the site being on the corner lot of Main Street East at Spruce Street. The basement of the new church was opened and blessed by the late Bishop Kidd, D.D., on September 26, 1945, the feast day of the parish patron saints — St. John de Brebeuf and Companions. The late Bishop Kidd, D.D., said the first Mass that day in the new basement of the church. Divine services, therefore, were discontinued at the chapel on No. 18 Highway. The chapel was demolished and the material used in the new church.

In the fall of 1947, the steel which was ordered for the upperstructure of the new church, was fabricated and erected in November of 1947. In May of 1948 the masonry work was started and most of the building was under cover by November.

On May 18, 1949, His Excellency Coadjutor John C. Cody,

D.D., consecrated the three bells which were afterwards hoisted to their permanent position in the tower on May 20 and 21. The bells came from the world famous bell makers Gillett and Johnston Co., Croydon, England. ,

On May 29, 1949, the late Bishop John Thomas Kidd, D.D., said the first Mass in the new church and blessed the upperstructure. On the same date, in the afternoon, he confirmed a very large class.

On Friday afternoon, September 23, 1949. the cross was put into place on the tower. It is five feet high and two and one half feet wide.

On Saturday, October 15, 1949, Coadjutor John C. Cody, D.D., erected the Stations of the Cross in the church.

The new church was completed on the outside with the exception of the front steps on Friday, November 25, 1949.

The parish has two hundred and fifty families as its members and from April until October a very large group of summer visiting people crowds the facilities of the church.

The area of the parish is from the town west to Arner town line; from town east to Union, and north to the sixth concession.

THE SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army in Kingsville dates back to June 5th, 1886, when the Kingsville Corps was officially opened with Captain Louisa Cowan, the first officer in charge. Its record here, like that of the Army all over the world is one largely of Evangelism and social service. Its achievements are almost deliberately kept from publicity but have meant much to this community through its 66 years here. Old residents will readily recall the names of Mrs. Broadwell and Mrs. Cox and the unselfish devotion of these women to the Army.

Transients in need of meals are always fed. Many families suffering the tragedy of fire have been cared for and given a fresh start. Christmas Cheer parcels are always distributed to the aged and needy. In 1951 alone over, 300 articles of clothing were distributed. Its community and social service efforts are indeed legion and cover almost every phase of human distress.

The calibre of the corps through the years is demonstrated by the fact that many have gone into the Training College to become officer personnel. The most notable of these is Colonel Archie Layman, brother of the late Harry Layman. He rose to a position of great responsibility, viz., to that of Chief Secretary of the Canadian Territory. He also held high ranking and important positions with the Army in the United States where he is now living in well earned retirement. Another name to be mentioned of more recent date is that of Captain George Cox who is now serving in the missionary field in South Africa.

The Amy's present building was completely remodelled in 1947 and put in an excellent state of repair. Sunday School and church services are held here every Sunday with youth group meetings during the week. And its personnel in the true spirit of the Army are ready at all times of the week to lend a helping hand anywhere to anyone.

Envoy and Mrs. George Wright are now in charge, having moved here from Leamington sometime ago. The Corps comes under the direct jurisdiction of the London and Windsor Division whose chief is Lt. Col. Alfred Keith.

CHAPTER VI

Some Family Chronicles

"It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors"—Plutarch

THE BROADWELL FAMILY

In 1850 Thomas Broadwell, his wife and family from England settled in Ohio. After a few years he moved to Kingsville. He and his wife are buried in the cemetery behind the Anglican Church,

Their children were all married in Ohio and all, with the exception of one daughter, Mrs. William Harding, came to Canada. The other children of Thomas Broadwell were Mrs. John Miner, Mrs. James Townsend, Mrs. Amos Broadwell, George and Joel Broadwell. Joel Broadwell later moved to British Columbia. They may be remembered by some of the older residents of the community. There are many relatives and descendants living in Kingsville and surrounding country.

In 1870 Amos Broadwell, father of the late Ben Broadwell moved from Ohio to Essex County. He bought land on the third concession, where he made his home. This property is now owned by the Miner family. Sometime before 1880 he started the Broadwell brick and tile plant, three miles north of Kingsville on Division Road, and it is the oldest operating brick and tile plant in Essex County. Ben Broadwell took over the business in 1884 and it is still carried on by his son and grandson, Byron Sr. and Byron Jr.

In the early days, horses hitched to a sweep supplied the power. A kiln was used for burning, using four-foot cord wood for fuel. Hundreds of cords of wood were used in a season. After a time a steam engine replaced the horses for power. The kiln in use today holds 40,000 four-inch tile at one setting, more than a season's run in the olden days.

Mrs. Ben Broadwell has been living in Gosfield South for 73 years. She is in her 90th year.

THE CONKLIN FAMILY

Jacob Conklin was one of three Irish brothers who settled in Canada with the British troops and the Loyalists, after the Revolutionary war. Archive records trace two Conklins as receiving land

grants in the Mecklenburg district at Cataraqui and the Nassau district near Brantford. Jacob, a miller, settled north of Ruthven, and had three children, Matthew, Thomas and Betsy. Thomas, born in Gosfield in 1819, purchased a farm from Windel Wigle in 1847 for the cost of £25. This is the farm now in possession of John Barnett on the Third Concession Road. In 1853 he purchased from the Park family the property in Kingsville in Lots 2 and 3, First Concession, Western Division. This property on Main St. West still remains in the Conklin family.

Jacob and his son Thomas both resided on the Kingsville farm until their deaths in 1860 and 1863 respectively. Thomas had married Susannah Weigle, daughter of Wendel Weigle and Isabella Kratz. Susannah was granddaughter of John Wendel Weigle and Julianna Romer, as well as of Leonard Kratz and Mary Munger, elsewhere mentioned in the family chronicles. This typical intermarriage of early families is interesting. Of Susannah Wigle Conklin's eight children, Wilhelmina married Horace Wigle, and David in 1875 married Wilhelmina Fox, a Wigle by descent. Thus the blood of Wigle, Kratz and Fox were mingled in the family of David Conklin.

Both Arthur Conklin, the elder son of Thomas, and David, the younger son, spent their entire lives in and about Kingsville, actively engaged in business enterprises. Arthur's farming activities extended to include the sale of farm machinery at the home farm prior to 1880, and at a business site near the centre of town later. To farm machinery, he added carriages. With changing times, the Ford car was added, his only son Robert becoming a partner in these concerns. In the late 1920's Robert turned to fruit farming, becoming particularly well-known in the district for his apples.

David Conklin's life was mainly concerned with lumbering. From his father's death when he eight years old, he spent his early years with his uncle, Simon Wigle, an outstanding lumberman of the pioneer days. His reminiscences tell a fascinating story of days almost forgotten, when oxen teams were used to clear the land and skid the great square timbers of white oak to the Lake Erie anchorages. There they would be loaded on sailing vessels and sent on down the Great Lakes.

From 1885 until the year of his death in 1952, David Conklin owned and operated a sawmill on Division Road at the Fourth Concession. In its first years the mill included planing mill equipment which in 1903 was moved to Kingsville and developed as the Conklin Planing Mills under William T. Conklin. Concurrent with sawmilling, Mr. Conklin took up farming. When he had bought and cleared land, removing the timber for milling, he tile-drained and farmed it. He was also active in the early gas wells of the town. In 1892, and again in 1901 when business was depressed, he erected business blocks which still stand as part of Kingsville's business section.

David and Arthur Conklin were typical business men of their generation. Lacking many privileges in youth, including that of a

school education, they learned through experience and effort, and they grew with the times. David Conklin's life coincided very closely with Kingsville's first hundred years. His passing in the year 1952 marks for old and young a milestone in the life of the town.

David Conklin's only son, William Thomas, has been actively engaged in the retail lumber and planing mill business in Kingsville since the year 1903, his activities having been extended in later years to six other towns and villages in Essex County. In 1913 he began the intensive development of Cedar Beach as a resort for Detroiters, and did much to lay the foundation for Kingsville's present resort industry. He was joined in the lumber business in 1945 by his only son, William David Conklin, Q.C., who has devoted his full time to the business since 1949 when he retired from the public practice of law after 13 years of practice in Kingsville.

THE FOX FAMILY

The history of the Fox Family of Essex County had its inception in Baden, Germany, in the year 1772. That year Philip Fox of Baden, and his bride, Catherine Lamer, decided to emigrate to America. They journeyed to Liverpool, England, and embarked from that port. After 14 weeks on the Atlantic they landed at Baltimore, Maryland. They first moved to Pennsylvania and later, with John Wendel Wigle and his family trekked to Detroit. After living on Grosse Isle they came to Essex County and in 1794 settled on Lot No. 10 on the shore of Lake Erie in the township of Gosfield South. Their family, some of whom were born in Pennsylvania, consisted of eight sons, and two daughters, namely: Jonas, Philip, Margaret, Judith, Michael, George, Henry, Adam, Jacob, and John. All who bear the name of Fox in this locality are direct descendants of these sons.

Philip C. Fox, who was a resident of this town at the time of his death in 1922; his brother, Solomon C., and their sister, Minnie (the first Mrs. Homer Wigle), were descended from Jonas, the oldest son of Philip Fox, and Catherine Lamer. Philip C. Fox owned and lived for the most of his life on the farm now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Mac Simmers. He was reeve of Gosfield South for many years and was also mayor of Leamington for a time during his residence in that town. The late Milton C. Fox, who at one time represented South Essex in the provincial parliament, and his cousin, Gordon G., trace their descent to Michael who was the fifth son of Philip Fox and Catherine Lamer.

The late Mrs. Hugh Scratch, the first Mrs. Arthur Ferris, and Mrs. William Gilkinson were also descended from Michael Fox. Their mother, Mrs. Ezra Malott (nee Jeannette Fox) was the daughter of Michael Jr., the granddaughter of Michael Sr., and the great granddaughter of Philip Fox and Catherine Lamer. The late Gordon P. Fox, who for many years was prominent in the civic and church affairs of Kingsville, was the grandson of Jacob, who was the ninth child of Philip Fox and Catherine Lamer. Not only those who bear

the name of Fox, but the descent of many others who are prominent in the professional, industrial, civic and religious affairs of Kingsville emanates from the same source. The late David Conklin chose as his bride, Wilhelmina, granddaughter of Jacob Fox, daughter of William C. Fox, and sister of Gordon P. Fox. His descendants number with many others among the descendants of Philip Fox and Catherine Lamer who left Germany in 1772.

THE GIRTY FAMILY

The family of Girty has sprung from roots planted early in the new world, and can look to one forefather who was so outstanding during such an outstanding period in the development of our continent that historians vary in referring to him as famous or as notorious. Such a man was Simon Girty, born in 1741, whose 77-year lifetime could be recounted in fact which would outstrip most fiction, and could be evaluated only with a full understanding of the circumstances under which he lived.

Simon Girty was the second son of an Irish immigrant of the same name who traded with the Indians in the wilds of Pennsylvania. His father was killed in an argument with one of these Indians and, at the age of 10, Simon came under the tutelage of a stepfather, John Turner, himself a hardened frontiersman. By 1756 the war between the French and British was in full swing and, in the destruction of a fort near the Susquehanna River where they lived, John Turner, his wife Mary Newton Girty, Thomas, Simon, James and George Girty, fell into the hands of the Indians and John Turner was burned at the stake. The remaining members of the family were parcelled out to various tribes, Simon being adopted by the Senecas. During the formative years between the ages of 15 and 18, Simon absorbed, in addition to his pioneer heritage and the toughening of his childhood, the physical courage and daring, as well as the lore and outlook, of an Indian brave. When their captivity was ended in 1759, with the signing by the Indians of the Treaty of Easton, the family was reunited at Pittsburg, but Simon was unable to adjust himself to an inactive and mundane existence and, in keeping with the tendencies he had acquired, became an interpreter for Fort Pitt traders. His success and influence among the Indians soon publicized his name throughout the land, and when the boundary war between Virginia and Pennsylvania broke out he espoused the Virginian cause and was enrolled in the regular militia. But by 1774 Simon found this militia, and of course himself, at war with his Indian friends, and when they were defeated, one chieftain, understandably enraged by a former massacre of his family, refused to negotiate, blocking the conclusion of the Dunmore Treaty. No ordinary ambassador could be expected to be at once an able diplomat and the possessor of the stamina required in the facing of an enraged Indian Chief. One man alone in the Dunmore entourage could and did do this job—Simon Girty. His success far exceeded the greatest expectations of Lord Dunmore, and the following year, on February 22, 1775, Simon was commissioned as an officer, swearing full allegiance to King George the Third and becoming a full-fledged Britisher.

It was nearly two months after this occasion that the battles of Lexington and Concord were fought, marking the beginning of the war which culminated with the recognition by Great Britain in 1783 of the independence of the thirteen original English colonies under the name of the United States of America. But what history refers to as the Indian Wars, the conquest of the territory northwest of the Ohio River and which belonged to the Province of Canada having Detroit as capital, continued on into the middle of 1796, and with it the exploits of Simon Girty the Loyalist. Much has been written by American historians maligning one who was among their most effective enemies, but space does not here permit the extensive storytelling which is needed to cover the tremendous activities of this great man, let alone a cataloguing of facts to refute his critics. It must suffice here to quote from a later copy of the Missouri Gazette of May 7th, 1814, "Simon (Girty) was adopted by the Senecas and became as expert a hunter as any of them. His character, as related in Kentucky and Ohio of being a 'savage, merciless monster' is much exaggerated. It is true that he joined the Indians in most of their war parties, and conformed to their mode of warfare, but it is well authenticated that he saved many prisoners from death. He was considered an honest man, paying his debts to the last cent."

Simon's almost unbelievably active life quieted down after he was forced to flee Fort Detroit in the face of advancing American troops in 1796. He had married Catherine Malott, a captive whom he had rescued from the Delawares, and he settled on a farm near Amherstburg where he died on February 18th, 1818. Simon Girty was buried on this same farm, having had the honour of a military funeral. Today a portrait of his wife Catherine still hangs in a Pittsburgh gallery.

Simon and Catherine left two boys and two girls. One girl married a pioneer Sanford and the other, Ann, married Peter Governeau. The record is not clear as to one of the boys, but the other, Prideaux, became a major in the Canadian Army, and documents bearing his name are in the Amherstburg Museum. Descendants of Prideaux included three boys and three girls, Thomas, John, Jim, Demarais, Victoria and Jane. Thomas became a doctor in Ruthven and married Mary Ann Fox of Albertville. To them were born Peter, George, John, Frank, Cecelia and Nettie.

John and Jim settled around Kingsville, at one time owning land now known as the Peter Malott property on the lake front and also the Christine Adams property west of town. The daughters all married, and, through them, many local residents can today trace their ancestry back to Simon Girty, as could Lloyd Girty, who gave his life during World War II.

Ever increasing descendants will refer proudly to the name of Girty, which will live on in historical romance for many years to come.

THE GOLDEN FAMILY

Jasper Golden's life touched almost every phase of Kingsville's early history between 1850 when he arrived from Ireland, and 1916 when he died.

Born in County Sligo, Ireland, in 1823, he was educated at Dublin College and taught school in Ireland for six years. His voyage to Canada by sailing vessel in May 1850 cost him £3.5s and lasted five weeks. He operated a private school in Anderdon for two months that year charging pupils 50c a month. Enrolment rose from nine to 15 pupils. He received a first class certificate from the Council of Public Instruction for Upper Canada in 1850. This was the first year in which certificates were issued for Upper Canada.

He taught for a year at S.S. 3 Malden. January 1852 saw him teaching at Albertville for \$24.00 a month. He taught in Albertville for six years. In his first month of teaching the enrolment increased from 40 to 70 pupils. In 1858 he came to Kingsville and taught for five years. He gave up teaching and devoted his time to farming on part of Lot 7, Gosfield South. Mr. Golden was one of the best loved and best known instructors in Essex County.

In church affairs, Mr. Golden was also an outstanding worker and leader. He taught Sunday School from the age of 16, and was Sunday School superintendent for more than half a century. For years he led a weekly interdenominational Bible class which was largely attended. He was a licensed lay reader of the Anglican Church, and church warden not only when the St. John's frame church was built in 1852 but also when the present Epiphany Church was built in 1891. At his death he was a member of the executive committee of the Anglican Synod of Huron Diocese and its oldest member. For 48 years he was president of the local branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society.



JASPER GOLDEN 1823-1916

In community affairs Jasper Gollen served as school trustee, police magistrate, assessor and returning officer in federal elections. In politics he was an active Conservative. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge for 58 years and acted as secretary for seven years and chaplain for 10 years.

In 1857 Jasper Golden married Christeen Malott, daughter of Joseph and Mary (McKenzie) Malott, and granddaughter of Peter and Mary (Jones) Malott. They had six children, Mary Ann, Sarah Jane, Albert Joseph, Robert Fletcher, John Richard, and Jasper Alexander. Two of his grandchildren still reside on the homestead, part of Lot 7, west of Division road, namely Jasper Percival Golden who lives on the northern part and has a grandson, Richard Jasper Golden; and Mrs. Forest Adams (nee Christeen Miller) who resides in the stone house on Highway 18 west, built by Jasper Golden nearly 100 years ago. It is interesting that the large stones in this house were brought from Kingston, Ontario, by his brother-in-law, Capt. William Malott who used them for ballast in his sailing vessels on his return trips carrying grain and produce down the Great Lakes.

Jasper Golden died on March 27th, 1916, in his 94th year, one of the oldest, best loved and most honorable citizens of Kingsville and Gosfield South. Funeral arrangements were in charge of the Masonic Order. Services were held in the Epiphany Church, Kingsville, with the Huron Diocese being represented by the Rev. Dean Davies of London, Ontario.

THE HARRIS FAMILY

When Kingsville was still a thing of the future, Henry Harris came to this locality. He was born in Iona, Ontario, and can be truly called an Ontario pioneer.

In 1842 his father purchased a grist mill for him on Mill Creek west of town, near the present home of George Carson. To this he added a wool carding and cloth manufacturing plant. After a few years he sold the grist mill and moved the wool carding and cloth machinery to a plant where the Covell building now stands. Here he erected a combination grist, wool and cloth mill, as well as a foundry, operating it until the year 1862, when the lure of the Gold Rush took him to British Columbia. In 1864 he returned to Kingsville but met with ill fortune when fire destroyed his business, leaving him with five dollars of capital.

The stamina of our forefathers may well put us to shame. With the five dollars remaining to him, Henry Harris rented a bakery and started a new business. By 1870, he was again able to establish a foundry obtaining power from the grist mill next to him. Here he manufactured plow points among various other farm implements. A metal fence with iron cresting of his own design was so successful that he extended his business and greatly increased his machinery.

Henry Harris was intimately connected with the development of our town. The maple trees which adorn the east side of Division

St. were planted by him. The first dock in Kingsville, situated at the foot of Division St., was built by him. In addition he was partner in the dry goods store of Cameron and Harris.

Owen Harris, his son, followed closely in his father's steps. At an early age he entered his father's shop as moulder and general assistant in all undertakings. He eventually assumed entire responsibility of the business which he conducted with marked success. He built and operated the first roller skating rink in Kingsville, acted on the village council and also on the board of trade. In later years he was the local librarian, a position which he held for 35 years.

The foundry begun by Henry Harris was leased to Messrs. George E. Green and Robert F. Green in 1901. The Green Bros. Foundry specialized in manufacturing of gas stoves. The foundry building was later used for several years by William Beckett in the manufacture of gas furnaces. Elihu Covell re-commenced foundry operations in the same building during the 1930's, continuing these activities until the building was demolished in recent years to make way for the new Bell Telephone Dial Exchange. Thus the story of Henry Harris and the foundry goes from 1842 to present days.

Of his descendants who now live in Kingsville there are Blake Harris, Eleanor Crawford Shean (Mrs. Clarke Shean) with her sons, James and Robert; Grace Harris Robson (Mrs. Clinton Robson) with her sons, John and William, and her granddaughter, Joan Robson; John Harris Robson, great grandson of Henry Harris, became Kingsville's post master in 1948, after a war record in World War II.

HERRINGTON FAMILY

Richard Herrington, the progenitor of a large Kingsville district family, was born in Greenbush, N.Y., in 1796, and at the age of seven came to Canada with his parents who settled on a farm near Kingston. Here he attended school, later becoming a Baptist minister. When he had married Polly Woorster, they made their home in the vicinity of Brockville, but his wife died at the age of 22 leaving him with three small children. Richard's second marriage was to Emily Brown and three children were born to them.

In the spring of 1823, the Herringtons came to Gosfield Township and acquired the deed to 200 acres of land known as Lot 1, Conc. 1, East Div., comprising the land east of what is now Division Street between what is now Main Street and Lake Erie. Richard built a log cabin just south of the present Lakeshore Terrace Gardens on the bank of Lake Erie, and also built a log structure as a Baptist Church. Later, after clearing and draining the land for ultimate sale in acreage parcels and small lots, he built the first structure of the home on Park Street known as "Birchlea".

During the epidemic of 1825, the family was stricken, and Emily Herrington died, leaving Richard with the six children. The family were all so seriously ill that only one, and that a small child, was able to attend the mother's funeral at the little burying ground



Sarah Herrington — John Herrington

on the hill opposite what is now the Government Fish Hatchery. Through the kindness of neighboring families and the faithful help of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Malotte, Elder Herrington and his children survived their illnesses. One year later he married Ann Iler with whom he lived happily for many years, being blessed with eight more children.

Richard Herrington died in 1872, leaving his wife, Ann; five sons, Jesse, Rev. Richard Jr., John, Rev. Charles and Samuel; and nine daughters: Charlotte, Elizabeth, Matilda, Polly, Lucinda, Ester, Emily, Susann and Mary.

For some time prior to his death, Elder Richard Herrington had felt that a central burying ground, rather than the customary farm plots, was needed in the community, and he had often mentioned to his daughter, Polly, who owned "Green Hill", that this land would be an ideal spot for a cemetery. When he died, he was buried there and the land was set aside for Green Hill Cemetery to grow around this first grave.

THE JASPERSON FAMILY

The Jasperson name has been identified with Kingsville for more than a hundred years.

Lewis Frederick Jasperson, the first Jasperson to live here, was originally of Detroit. His father, Hans George, was born in Denmark in 1785 and came to America in 1806 as a merchant trader in partnership with his brother who remained in Denmark and whose branch of the family is still in Kiel, now Germany. Hans George carried on business in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio and Michigan. Detroit became his permanent residence around 1813. He was listed in the 1834 directory of Detroit as a merchant at 116 Woodward Avenue.

Lewis, who married Jane Wigle, sister of Solomon Wigle, of Kingsville, at Christ Church, Detroit, in 1846, moved to the old village of Colchester in 1847, and acquired land there with his brother Henry. The following year, at the age of 22, he moved to Kingsville and set up what is believed to be the first general store here, on the site of the present Statham's Drug Store. He acquired a two-acre plot on the west side of what is now Division Street, stretching from Main to Pearl Street, buying it from Andrew Stewart for the sum of 100 pounds.

Around 1854, his father being ill, he sold his business in Colchester to Thomas Salmoni, the father of Mr. T. J. Salmoni of Kingsville. He also sold his business in Kingsville to Solomon Wigle, and moved back to the States where he and his brother carried on their father's business. In the 60's however, he returned to Kingsville with his family and remained until his death in 1895.

There were eight children, four of whom were born in Kingsville: George, Fred, Bon and Hilton.

Fred and Hilton moved to Philadelphia when they were young men. Fred, a civil engineer, became chief consulting engineer for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

Lewis, the father, along with his sons, George, Bon and Fred, carried on lumbering operations clearing most of the virgin timber from Pelee Island in the 80's and also a considerable quantity of timber in Romney, Kent County, where he maintained saw mills.

A graduate of the Detroit Branch of the University of Michigan, he was always interested in the intellectual life of young people and at the time of his death was president of the Mechanic's Institute, the antecedent of the Public Library.

George and Bon carried on business in Kingsville after their father's death. Bon started as a grain dealer, the site of his elevator being that now occupied by the Kingsville Co-Op elevator on the C.&O. R.R. He then formed a private bank with S. L. McKay who at that time owned the hardware store now owned by Ernest McCay.

Subsequently, he became associated with his brother, George, in the canning business which is now the Canadian Canners here; the first light company to supply Kingsville with electricity, which later was sold to the Edison Company; and the Essex Tobacco Company, a processing plant for leaf tobacco which later became the Hodge Tobacco Company.

George's major business was as a processor of leaf tobacco and he was one of the pioneers in that business in this area. His original factory, a small cement block building, is now incorporated into the factory of the Consolidated Leaf Tobacco Company.

Bon's major interest when he withdrew from private banking was in the oil and gas business with his partner, S. L. McKay, developing leases in Kent County, and retailing gas to consumers as far east as Ridgetown. Their plant was purchased by the Union Gas Company in 1914. He was also engaged in extensive farming operations in and around Kingsville, a brick and tile business at Coatsworth, in Kent County, and subsequently a natural gas business which he developed immediately east of Kingsville and operated until his death.

The latter part of George's life was spent at Daytona Beach, Florida, where he made his permanent residence. He died there at the age of 85. Bon remained a resident of Kingsville. He died in 1947 at the age of 78.

George was married to Alice McCormick of Pelee Island. They had no children. Bon was married to Gertrude Kent of Truro, Nova Scotia. They had two children, Esther, the wife of Dr. T. D. Campbell of Kingsville, and Fred, also of Kingsville. The latter practised law in Windsor with John H. Rodd and Col. E. S. Wigle, K.C., until 1939 when he enlisted and went overseas with the Essex Scottish Regiment which he commanded in the raid on Dieppe. He was awarded the D.S.O.

On his return to civilian life, he resumed the practise of law, was made a K.C. but withdrew from practise in 1946 and returned to Kingsville. He is actively interested in politics, having run as Progressive Conservative candidate for Essex South in the Federal election of 1949. He is presently engaged in business, chiefly farming and is on the advisory board of the Canada Trust Company and Huron and Erie Mortgage Corporation.

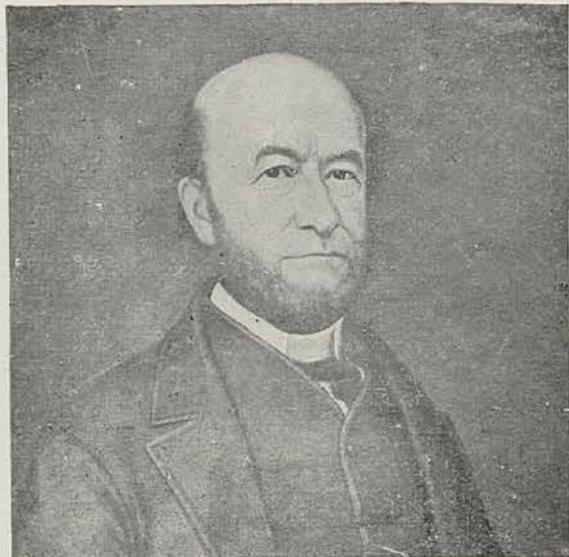
The family have all been of the Anglican faith, taking an active part in the life of the Church of the Epiphany here.

THE KING FAMILY

The King family is outstanding, partly because the name chosen for the post office and settlement in 1852 was Kingsville, honoring Colonel James King, an outstanding pioneer citizen. The family was of English origin. James King was born in Devonshire in 1805. He lived in Hammersmith, London, pursuing studies first under private tutors and later at Cambridge University.

In 1826, James King married a widow, Mrs. Sarah (Perry) Nightingale. She had two sons, Leonard and Ernest Nightingale. The family group emigrated to Montreal, Canada, in 1829. Associated with a clergyman, Dr. Workman, Mr. King conducted a Boys' School in Montreal for two or three years.

His dauntless spirit urged him on to move farther West, to the Detroit frontier of the Canadian province. In the early '30's, he



Col. James S. King

School teacher, notary public, customs officer, it was Col. King's name which was adopted by the hamlet of Kingsville in 1852.

took up land on Division Road near the Fifth Concession Road. Three children were born here, James Workman King, Ellen, who later married Dr. Allworth, and Alfred L. King. In 1835, the family moved to a house built on or adjacent to the site of Quick's Store near the present four corners of Kingsville. In her "Family Record"

Mary Burch reported this move to be in 1843. Col. King's fourth child, Sydney A. King, was born here in 1844.

Col. James King played an active and constructive part in Kingsville's early life. He was a loyal soldier and, in 1837, when rebellion broke out in the Canadian colony, he was made lieutenant colonel of the Third Essex Regiment. His arduous efforts to teach under the handicaps of pioneer living were unique. He first taught in the log cabin of Peter Malott, and later banded the settlers together to co-operate in building a school. For many years he was the superintendent of schools for Gosfield. Col. King was also active in building the first Anglican Church in Kingsville. During his later years, he was a customs officer, notary public and division court clerk. In 1859 he moved his residence, building the octagonal part of the home still standing on Mill Street West, now owned by Col. Frank Reid and his wife, Laura King Reid. Col. King died in 1880. An excellent oil portrait of him hangs in the council chambers in the Town Hall, donated by the children of William Sydney King.

Of his four children, James W. and Sydney lived their entire lives in Kingsville. The name of James Workman King appears in early lists of Kingsville business men.

Sydney studied medicine at Victoria College and practised at Drumbo for three years before returning home. His activities in Kingsville were to leave a permanent mark on the community. He married a daughter of Solomon Wigle, M.P., and took an active part in many industrial enterprises. He founded the Kingsville Reporter in 1873, headed a lobby at Ottawa for a Kingsville harbor in 1874, and organized the first Natural Gas Company in 1888. He assisted in promoting the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railroad in 1889 and was its first president. His association with the Walker family assisted in promoting the Mettawas Hotel, which was built about the same time. Dr. King was reeve of Kingsville for many years, and was a defeated Conservative candidate in the federal election of 1896. He died in 1907.

Ellen King married Dr. Allworth, another outstanding and public spirited citizen of Kingsville in the early days. The Allworth family spread to various parts of Canada and the United States.

Leonard Nightingale married Lucinda Harrington and had two children. He had a leather tannery at the westerly end of Pearl Street and also a general store on Main Street West during the 1850's and 60's. He moved to Detroit about the year 1880.

Ernest Nightingale married the widow of Andrew Stewart and died in Kingsville.

Descendants of Col. King, living now in Kingsville, are Major George C. King and Mrs. Frank A. Reid of the third generation, and James Sydney Green and Charles Peter King, of the fourth generation. Two children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peter King, namely Charles Sydney and Mary Elizabeth are fifth generation representatives of this noteworthy family.

THE MALOTT FAMILY

Peter Malott, the progenitor of most of the Malotts of Kingsville, came to Detroit from Maryland in 1783 with his three brothers and two sisters. There he met and married Mary Jones, of Morgantown, W. Va., who as a child had been stolen by the Indians and ten years later freed in Detroit by General McCoombs. Through the General's influence the young couple settled first on Grosse Ile. The next year Peter traded a cow for a U.E. Loyalist right in the Township of Gosfield and moved with his wife and first child, Joseph, to his holding, Lots 4 and 5, Western Division, where he built a log house and began the work of a pioneer. While still in the prime of life, Peter was fatally scalded by falling into boiling cider on Dec. 3, 1815.

Two years after his death fifty-year-old Mary Malott and her youngest son, Peter, aged 13, walked to West Virginia, seeking her parents whom she hadn't seen for forty years. In 1910 the Jones-Malott descendants erected at Mary's grave on the homestead a monument preserving her story in stone.

The eldest son, Joseph, grew up in Gosfield and came into possession of Lots 6 and 7. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Church, in which he served for many years as a local preacher. He married Mary McKenzie, and they had two sons, John and William, and three daughters, Eliza, Christeen and Jane. Christeen married Jasper Golden, whose story appears elsewhere in this book.

Of Joseph's children his son, William, contributed most to the commercial and civic life of the community. William started off by getting into the thick of things when he entered the militia at 16 and fought in the War of 1838-39 at Amherstburg. By 1856 he received his commission as Captain of the 74th Battalion, Essex Militia, from Governor-General Sir Edward Head.

William had grown up on the home farm fronting on Lake Erie, and at an early age he began sailing the lakes, at one time serving as mate on the "Ida" under his brother John, as Captain. They built a wharf in front of the homestead in 1860 for shipping wheat and produce during the American Civil War, and for a time after its close shipped wheat direct to England but discontinued when the venture proved unprofitable. Captain William Malott built four ships—the "Wave", "Eureka", "Alzora" and "Antelope"—and sailed as master of his vessels for years. Because he engaged extensively in marine traffic, it has been said that he afforded a "means of trade and communication at a time when no other means were at hand."

Captain Malott was married on April 29, 1845, to Mary Jane Scratch, and they had seven children. He inherited Lot 7, Gosfield South, but later in life built a large, frame house at Kingsville — on the hilltop near the present dock. In front of his new home he built another wharf, which in 1883 the Government bought. In 1886 he was made Harbor Master.



THE MALOTT FAMILY, 1904

The above gathering of the Malott family was held at the home of Ezra Malott in the summer of 1904. Left to right: very front: Sidney Ferris, Mrs. Hugh Scratch, Mrs. Arthur Ferris, Mrs. Wm. Gilkinson, Ed Ferriss, Miss Eva Girty, Miss Kate Grenville, Miss Lecia Malott, Mrs. Ely Scratch, Miss Etta Coatsworth, Miss May Coatsworth, (not identified), (not identified), Charles Grenville, Mrs. E. O. Scratch. Seated: Jacob Wigle, Mrs. John Middough, (not identified), Mrs. Eliza (Wm.) G. Fox, Mrs. Corydon McDonald, Mrs. Angus McDonald, Solomon Fox, Mrs. Solomon Fox, Mrs. Solomon G. Fox, Mrs. Hannah Malott, (not identified), Mrs. Wm. Grenville, Mrs. Peter McDonald, Mrs. Ezra Malott, Mrs. Solomon Wigle, John Malott, Ezra Malott, Peter Hetherington, Mrs. Peter Hetherington, (not identified), (not identified), Wm. C. Fox. Standing: Solomon C. Coatsworth, (Mrs. Solomon C. Coatsworth), Arthur Malott, (not identified), Mrs. Wesley Wigle, Wesley Wigle, (not identified), (not identified), Philip Fox, Mrs. Philip Fox, (Mrs. Louis Malott), Louis Malott, Mrs. Watson Coatsworth, (not identified), Watson Coatsworth, (not identified), Wm. A. Grenville, Jasper Golden, (not identified), (not identified), Mrs. Jake Wigle, Mrs. Wm. C. Fox.

During a long and honorable career Captain Malott's name was connected with many worthy causes for the improvement of the town. He was instrumental in instituting the Masonic lodge here in 1852, was Master for several years, and, when interest in the lodge flagged, he revived it. He was also a staunch supporter of the town band and once advanced \$200 to have the village connected by telegraph. When he died March 5, 1890, the local paper described the funeral as the largest held in Kingsville for forty years.

Lewis Malott, William's eldest son, was probably the best known around Kingsville. As a young man Lewis sailed with his father and received his master's commission on Sept. 26, 1892, but came to devote his time entirely to the land. He had inherited an attractive farm property on the lake shore. Here Lewis, with the years, became good-natured host to a flock of summer visitors when his thrifty wife, Althea Wigle, decided to earn pin money by turning part of their home into a summer resort. Lewis never took an active interest in local affairs but was always looked up to by many warm personal friends. His sons are no longer on the land, but two of his daughters (Emma and Hazel) summer at Kingsville.

The second Peter Malott was born on March 13, 1804, in the log house on Lot 4 and passed his whole life on the homestead, which came into his possession, becoming one of the thrifty and prosperous farmers of his section. His ten children, Ann, Jane, Mary, Susan, Ezra, John J., Eliza, Leonard, Elizabeth and Delight—were all born in the old log house and lived in or near Kingsville with the exception of Susan, who died in infancy.

Peter eventually built a frame house, which stood for many years. He took an active part in the affairs of his day, serving in the rebellion of 1837-38 and taking part in the fighting around Amherstburg. For many years he held a major's commission in the local military company. A Methodist, Peter was also prominent in the religious life of the community. As a councilor for fifteen years, he did everything in his power to advance the interests of the township. He died May 21, 1882, and was survived by his wife, born Julianna Wigle.

Among the numerous descendants of the second Peter Malott, well known in their time as successful farmers, active in the early municipal life of the town and township, were his three sons, Ezra, John J. and Leonard.

Ezra was born June 7, 1833, and at 22 started for himself on a farm of 65 acres in Lot 3, some 30 acres of which had been cleared. This tract he cleared and improved, residing there until his removal to the Village of Kingsville in 1890. Meantime he worked and prospered acquiring part of Lot 4 and 100 acres in the 3rd Concession. He took a lively interest in public affairs, served several years as school trustee, and was a township councilor for twelve years in succession. Two of his three daughters died childless, and his only surviving grandson, Sidney E. Ferriss, is a successful Detroit stock broker.

John J. Malott was born November 27, 1835. When he came of age, he received his share of the home lands and began farming for himself. Later he bought a sister's share, still holding 72 acres of the homestead property. He lived on Lot 4, and in 1877 put up his second house, a substantial brick, which still stands. In 1866 John J. built a sawmill at Kingsville and two years later added a gristmill, where the Covell Hardware now stands. For fifteen years in addition to his agricultural pursuits he did a general milling business. Later in life he bought 47½ acres on the north part of the old farm for one of his sons, at the same time owning 100 acres in another part of the township besides his own farm. Progressive in all his undertakings, Mr. Malott was active in the public life of the locality, having served eleven years as councilor in Kingsville. On December 20, 1857, he married Hannah Iler, and they had ten children, nine of whom survived him. All of his children excepting a daughter who died at eight, married, and most of them continued to live in or near Kingsville. One son, Herbert, went to Detroit and started the Detroit Show Case Co., and another son, Harley, died in India. John J. had four sons, six daughters and 40 grandchildren so the family name seems likely to be common in Kingsville for years to come.

Leonard Malott was born August 1, 1842. Three years after his first marriage—to Belinda Augustine—he left the home farm and moved to Kingsville, where the same year he built a sash and door factory on the southeast corner of Main and Prince Albert Streets. For 26 years he carried on the business, selling machinery when he retired from that line. In addition to his Kingsville property Leonard had 75 acres of the homestead farm, 64 acres in Lot 6 and 50 acres in Con. 5, and farmed extensively. He also served several years as a town councilor and was steward in the Methodist Church. His second wife was Martha Pykett. Leonard had in all nine children, three of whom, including another Peter, still farm part of his lands. The third Peter Malott will proudly display the Malott crown deed and show you the gravestone of his Great Grandmother Malott.

While most of the Kingsville Malotts belong to this line, there are in the town a few descendants of the first Peter's brother, Theodore, who settled in Gosfield Township, near the Mersea line. He married Catherine Wigle and had 11 children, most of whom lived in or near the Leamington area.

THE MINER FAMILY

So much can be said about the accomplishments of Kingsville's late Jack Miner, at one time Canada's most widely known and publicized citizen, and whose name has now been added to the Book of Knowledge as one of the 15 great men in the world. So much has been written of Jack Miner's life and of the wildlife sanctuary this great naturalist built, that his family history, tends to be somewhat obscured by the fame of this one man, who, though never in possession of the advantage of academic training, has been ranked, by one university professor, with Aristotle, as one of the world's greatest thinkers.

But another reason for the little attention given to the Miner family background, is the fact that it enters the new world record just one century ago, when John Miner Sr. came to this continent from his native Leicestershire, England, in 1853, to settle in the state of Ohio. There he married Ann Broadwell and, at Westlake, then known as Dover Centre, he carried on the trade of brick and tile making.

In March of 1878, John Miner Sr. journeyed to Canada and acquired 150 acres of bush land near Kingsville. He had realized how vital land drainage was in this district if it were to continue to develop, and that further brick and tile making was indicated for the prosperity of this growing agricultural community. He cut down a few trees and, recruiting a little help, constructed a crude log house. On April 22nd, he moved his entire family from Ohio, arriving at the new home two days later, and set about carrying on his trade in support of 10 children.

John Miner Sr. died on April 24th, 1917, in his 89th year, his wife having predeceased him in 1914. Among many descendants, the name of their son, Jack Miner, remains as the most widely known, and for a complete account of his life, one need only refer to the many books of which he is the subject, or to the Kingsville Reporter issue which was devoted entirely to the achievements of this one man.

THE PULFORD FAMILY

Edwin Avis Pulford came to Canada from London, England, with his parents in 1833 at the age of five years, the ocean crossing by sailing ship taking 13 weeks. They came to Kingsville and settled on Main Street where the elder Pulford started a blacksmith shop and carriage works. This business, the first of its kind in the community, was built upon the site which is now occupied by Cliff Williams' Motors.

Edwin Avis Pulford married Johannah Hooper in August, 1851, and took over his father's business. They had seven children, Albert Edward, William Henry, Charles Herbert, John, Bodicea, Foster Walter and Fanny Avis, and their home on Main Street East is now the McLean residence. The carriage and blacksmith business was carried on by two sons, Albert and John, until after their father's death in 1914.

An interesting highlight of the buggy and carriage era is the marked contrast between the finishing and varnishing methods of that time and present automotive finishing. During the last century it required at least 13 or 14 coats of varnish to finish a carriage with alternate daily periods of drying and hand-rubbing. It was not unusual for this operation to last seven or eight months before completion of a carriage. With present day high speed drying agents in paints and lacquers, combined with large baking ovens, vehicles are on the road the same day they are painted.

Descendents of the Pulford family are now widely scattered, with only three still residing in Kingsville.

THE SCRATCH FAMILY

If you search Lot 9, Western Division, Gosfield South, back to the Crown, you will find the first deed was held by "Leonard Scratch, United Empire Loyalist." He is the ancestor of everyone of the Scratch or Kratz name in the County of Essex.

Born February 14, 1756, at Teutenhofer, near Frankfort, Germany, Leonard was educated in that country and drafted into the army at the age of twenty. He formed one of a company sent to the New England colony to aid Great Britain during the American Revolution. Leonard took part in several battles and was wounded at one of them. After the surrender of the army, the soldiers were given their choice of free passage home or free land in Canada. This offer was made in 1779 when Leonard was away on furlough. Upon his return he found his regiment disbanded. This caused him to decide to remain in America.

Familiar with the woods, Leonard was hired as guide by a band of pioneers seeking land warrants in Kentucky. Among these colonists was a family named Munger. Leonard promptly fell in love with their daughter, Mary. When he proposed marriage, Mr. Munger objected to him as a stranger. Desperate situations call for desperate remedies. The young folks must have got their heads together, for, as the party advanced into the wilderness in constant danger of Indian attack, Leonard brought it to a halt by declaring he would lead no farther unless Mr. Munger consented to the marriage. Mary's father gave in. As soon as they reached a person authorized to perform the ceremony, the rite was performed in the open air beside the wagons that contained their all. But the Mungers were slow to forgive their new son-in-law.

Their destination was the fertile valley of the Licking. A favorable location for a settlement having been found, a number of families united in building a stockade for protection from Indian attack. The fort was called Ruddell's Station. Their suffering and privations that first winter were terrible, but June brought a military force of 600 Canadians and Indians, the whole party headed by Col. Byrd, an officer of the British Army. The settlers had to surrender, and Leonard and Mary were among the prisoners taken. The Indians separated from the whites and retained their prisoners. Women and children were loaded into canoes to proceed by water. The men captives were marched northward across the country to Detroit, where the commander, General McCoombs, paid for their freedom in blankets. Here Leonard kept a sharp watch of all canoes arriving until an emaciated Mary appeared in one of them. Then he learned their first child, a son, had been born to his wife shortly after their seizure but lived only a few hours. While the Indians were unloading the prisoners on the river bank to camp, the night after the child's birth, Mary had fallen with the infant in her arms, striking its head against a tree and killing it instantly.

Now the young couple had nothing in the world but each

other. In 1781 they settled on Hog Island, now Belle Isle, and there a second son, Peter, was born to them. Meanwhile there was talk about Leonard being a deserter. In 1782 he made his way to the seaboard and sailed for Germany to get his honorable discharge and a recommendation from the German army. (These original papers are now framed and in the possession of Mrs. E. S. Gurdjian of Detroit.) Eighteen months he tarried. Now Mary's people said: "First he deserted the army, now he's left you." But nothing the smooth Old World had to offer could keep Leonard from his young wife in her linsey-woolsey and the little son in his cradle. Upon his return Leonard found the child had died on the very night when he dreamed at sea that he saw Peter sinking beneath the waves. Leonard had noted the date of the dream in his diary.

In recognition of his military service, Leonard was eventually enrolled among the Loyalists. He availed himself of free land (Lot 9, W.D. Gosfield) as his U.E. right and afterward exchanged it for Lot 2. When the original owner of Lot 2 tired of pioneering, Leonard took Lot 9 back, thus coming into possession of 400 acres on the banks of Lake Erie. On the front of Lot 2 he put up a log house and began to clear his land. In time he prospered and bought more land until his holdings amounted to over 1,000 acres.

The first school teacher in these parts, Master McMurray, persuaded Leonard to anglicize his surname. We can imagine Leonard changing the spelling of "Kratz" to "Scratch" to show his loyalty to the country of his adoption.

It has been said Leonard Scratch was a big man physically as well as mentally, that his judgment was often sought by his neighbors and that he was highly respected for his integrity and religious tolerance. His house was always open to ministers of all denominations, and in 1815 his son, Peter, gave the land for the first church in Gosfield — a Methodist Episcopal. He died August 12, 1829, survived by his wife and nine of his eleven children.

Leonard's third son, Peter, stayed on the land. He was something of a mechanical genius, turning out, with the crude tools of his time, guns, watches, clocks, wind and power mills. Young Leonard moved to Ohio. But Henry and John stayed in Gosfield. Henry was ordained a Methodist minister, preached many years, and also successfully practised medicine. The youngest son, John, was appointed a magistrate in 1834 and retained that office for a number of years. John's ninth child, Richard, born in the year 1855, died at Kingsville in 1944, thus completing, in a span of a little over 150 years two generations of the family in Gosfield.

The descendants of Leonard Scratch have become related by marriage to the Wigles, Malotts and other pioneer families who not only physically developed this part of the country but were conspicuous in its social structure, religious, educational and political life.

There are those who have distinguished themselves abroad,

but let us confine the rest of this story to one who made good at home. Probably Kingsville's most solid townsman of this family name was Elihu Scratch. Born in 1853, when the town was only a year old, the third son of Leonard Scratch, a grandson of Peter and great grandson of the pioneer Leonard, Elihu began life on his father's lakefront farm, where Crawfton Inn is now located. He remained there until he was thirty-four. Early in life Elihu learned to use his head instead of his hands to make a living. He never farmed the home farm himself but acted as agent for an American firm buying lumber in Canada, supervising the shipping at Colchester, Kingsville, Leamington and Wheatley docks. This occupation led him next to engage in the lumber and fuel business on the vacant part of the one-acre house property on Division Street, Kingsville, which he acquired at the time. There were only a few houses to be seen on Division, but quite a bit of building was going on in the town, and the venture proved profitable. Elihu eventually sold this business to W. T. Conklin.

About this time Mr. Scratch decided electricity was the coming thing. He and a few others financed the building and operation of the first electrical plant in town, and Elihu's was one of the first houses to send the white gleam of electric lights out their windows. His share in this project was later sold to Bon Jasperson and S. L. McKay.

It's funny how we often see possibilities in our beginnings. Elihu may have remembered what a pleasant place to enjoy the old, lakefront farm had been in summers. Now there wasn't a cottage from Kingsville to Arner on the lakefront. Elihu bought a large tract of land from Henry Scratch, fenced it in and built a summer cottage which he and his family occupied several seasons. He fixed it up for a delightful picnic ground, built outside tables, swings and two bath-houses. Everything was free to any group that cared to avail itself of the privileges. He kept a large sail boat and liked nothing better than to take picnickers sailing. The first picnic held there was a Methodist gathering, and Rev. Mr. Wilson named the spot Linden Beach. It goes by that name to this day. Elihu tried to persuade the Township to do something about the road to his part of the shore; finally he improved it himself at his own expense. He built more cottages. People began to notice they were always rented and to feel the urge to summer at the lake. So Elihu organized the Cedar Beach Camping Co., and such old residents as Dr. Andrew Wigle, "Jimmy" Doan, W. H. Hellems, John J. Malott, Rev. Mr. Moyer, Rev. Mr. Godwin and others became shareholders and put up cottages of their own on land the syndicate had acquired near Cedar Creek. Elihu himself built three more cottages here. One of these has been reconverted and is now occupied by his daughter, Josephine and her husband, Dr. R. J. Foster, another by Dr. John Foster, and the third has been turned into a store operated by Mr. and Mrs. Allen. Kingsville, the summer resort it is today, was a dream that Elihu Scratch lived to see come true.

For years he found time to serve as a public servant — as

school trustee, councillor, reeve and mayor. You always saw him out at Baptist Church on Sundays, and as treasurer of the I.O.O.F. Lodge for thirty years, that organization was dear to his heart.

He died January 1, 1933, leaving one son, Leonard J., connected with the Michigan Bell Telephone Co., Saginaw, and two daughters, Nellie, wife of Dr. J. T. Hackett, and Josephine above-named.

STEWART AND AUGUSTINE

For an outline, even in its briefest form, of Kingsville's historic family of Stewart, one must look back to the middle of the 18th century, when James Stewart, a Highlander of Argyleshire in Scotland, was seized as a very young boy by a press gang and inducted into military service until the end of the French war.

Seasoned by a military career, James Stewart came to the Maryland district of America where he married Margaret Brown, herself a native of Scotland, and together they hoped to build a home in the New World. But this plan was interrupted by the American Revolution when James served as a colonel in the British army, the records showing he participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. Following this war, the Stewarts crossed the Allegheny Mountains and settled on a farm in Dunkard Township, Greene County, Pennsylvania, where eight children were born to them; four sons, James, John, Daniel and Charles; and four daughters, Sophia, Mary, Jane and one whose name is not recorded.

The Indians were very troublesome at this time, raiding, burning and pillaging to the extent that the Stewart family, along with other early settlers, were forced to retreat for safety to a fort about two miles distant, leaving their farms to the mercy of the prowling bands of disgruntled Indians. Occasionally the settlers would venture to the various farms in an attempt to care for the stock, and one morning, when all seemed peaceful, Colonel Stewart and his two eldest sons, James and John, went unarmed to their farm. While feeding their stock they were suddenly set upon by a band of ferocious Shawnees, and although Colonel Stewart made a brave stand he was quickly overpowered and his boys witnessed the terrible sight of their father's scalping. News of the act soon reached the fort and a party rushed to the scene to find the Indians gone, apparently having carried off the two boys. The mother, beside herself with grief, found the body of her husband, and discovering some loose hair left by the Indians in taking his scalp she carefully gathered it up with sorrowing hands and kept it with her all the eventful days of her life. This memento is of special interest as it was to be ultimately buried with her in a final resting place at Kingsville, many years later.

For seven years, Mrs. Stewart and the rest of her family lived on at the fort, by which time the Indians had been brought under better control, and she moved back to the farm. Also about this time, a traveller brought news of a youth in Ohio resembling her, and suddenly inspired by a new hope that her sons might still be living, the

brave mother set out alone on their old gray horse to follow elusive clues which finally brought her to Batavia, Ohio, where she put up wearily at a house by the wayside. Early the following morning she saw two young men carrying apples, one of whom she recognized as John. He did not immediately recognize his mother when she ran to him, but she showed him the old gray horse whose ears were pierced and he remembered this oddity from his childhood days. John told the story of his father's death and of the captivity he and James had endured. The Shawnees had traded them at Lake Erie to the Wyandottes who had taken them to Malden Township in Canada where they were subjected to the Indian tests of courage and physical endurance, finally being adopted into the tribe. John seized an opportunity to escape and made his way to where his mother had found him. Mrs. Stewart returned home with her son to plan another search for James. In the meantime, the eldest daughter Sophia had married a man named Troy, and they agreed to care for the homestead while Mrs. Stewart and John set out on horseback through the dense forests of Pennsylvania and Ohio and around Lake Erie into the State of Michigan. Arriving at the mouth of the Detroit River, they were taken across in a boat, swimming their horses, and landed at what is now called Amherstburg. Enquiry developed the fact that James Stewart was no longer with the Indians and was farming several hundred acres near Cedar Creek. Here the reunion took place after so many years of suffering and hardship. The devoted mother remained about one year and then returned with John to the rest of the family, leaving James in Canada. But hardship was still in store, for shortly after their arrival home the Indians fired their barn, destroying all its contents. Then Sophia's husband fell ill and died, leaving her one son, Alexander Troy. In 1805, Mrs. Stewart, with her sons, daughters and their families, left Pennsylvania and moved to Canada, taking nine horses loaded with their possessions and one cow. They followed the Indian trail the mother knew so well and crossed the Detroit River just south of Bois Blanc (Bob-Lo) Island. On arrival at the farm of James Stewart they found he had married a Miss Bruner. Subsequently, John married a Miss Augustine and Charles a Miss Findley.

The Augustine family had come from Pennsylvania to settle in Canada near Iona, and in 1804 Abel Augustine moved to Gosfield. On February 26th, 1805, he bought 300 acres (Lot 1 Con. 1 E.D.) and later bought another 100 acres to the north of this farm. The name Augustine was sometimes spelled Augustin and some branches of the family shortened this to Gustin.

Abel Augustine, on a visit to his sister who had married John Stewart, met and married the young Troy widow, Sophia, and took her and her son Alexander to their new home on the Augustine farm. This was a log cabin in a dense forest on the creek bank where Seger Augustine's home stands today, just north of Main Street East in Kingsville. Alexander attended school during the winters in a home at what is now Albertville and helped his stepfather faithfully during the summer months. They built a sawmill and gristmill and also a brick, tile and lime kiln, grinding and mixing their own lime for brick-

laying and making tile for the land drainage which greatly accelerated agriculture in this vicinity. Abel insisted upon adopting Alexander Troy and legally changed his name to Augustine, following which Abel and Sophia were blessed with seven more children, many of the descendants of whom live in Kingsville and district today.

Alexander Augustine served with the militia and fought with General Brock at Fort Detroit in 1812. For his services he was awarded a medal by King George III, and this memento is now in the possession of his grandson, Segar Augustine.

Mrs. Margaret Stewart spent the last years of her long and eventful life with her daughter, Sophia, on the Augustine farm. Born in 1731, Mrs. Stewart died in 1838 at the advanced age of 107 years and was buried on the Augustine farm in a casket containing the strand of hair she had always kept with her since that horrible day she had gleaned it after her husband's scalping in Pennsylvania.

In 1847, Alexander Augustine built the first structure of the present Baptist Church, using land donated by his uncle, Charles Stewart, and lumber donated and prepared by the Augustines in their sawmill. Alexander's first wife was Susan Tofflemire and they had one son Simon and one grandchild Belinda who married Leonard Malott, leaving descendants now living in Kingsville. Alexander's second wife was Charlotte Herrington, a daughter of Elder Richard Herrington, and of this marriage two sons were born, Arthur and Alexander Junior.

Arthur Augustine married Lucinda Sisson, daughter of James and Margaret Sisson, and they left three daughters now living in Kingsville. Arthur, besides operating his farm, was a bandmaster and music teacher in this town from 1878 to 1908, and in recognition of his generosity in supplying music at community functions the local organizations presented him with a cornet of his own choice in 1895.

Alexander Junior married Frances Clealand, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. James Clealand of Detroit. Much of Alexander's energy was devoted to the local Baptist Church as well as to the operation of his farm. They left six sons and three daughters, many of whose families live in Kingsville and district today. One son, Seger Augustine, is still cultivating 50 acres of the original 400 acres and is carrying on the homestead created in the midst of Kingsville 147 years ago.

In 1816, Charles Stewart had moved from Colchester and in addition to his lands in Mersea he acquired the deed to Lot 1 Con. 1 West Div., which gave him ownership of land west of Division Street from Lake Erie to the 2nd Concession of Gosfield South. He built a log cabin on what is now the corner of Queen and Herrington Streets and later deeded the land to Andrew Stewart. Andrew married Polly Herrington, daughter of Elder Richard Herrington who became the first minister of the local Baptist Church. In 1838 they built a frame house where the pavilion now stands in Lakeside Park and raised two daughters, Lucinda and Mary. Andrew Stewart cleared and drained

the land and then subdivided it into acreage parcels and small lots for sale. After the deaths of both Andrew and Polly, sale of the lots by their two daughters, Lucinda McLean and Mary (Minnie) Rae, continued into recent times.

THE WIGLE STORY

The Wigle story, like many an old novel, begins with an orphan boy, too spirited to accept his lot, seeking a new life in another land.

John Wendel Weigele was born in a village near Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, in 1753. When quite young he lost his mother and found himself living with strangers. Unhappy in his foster home, Wendel, at 14, decided he wasn't taking any more of the harsh treatment dealt out to him; he had neither friends nor money, but he was strong and healthy and decided he would run away and make a better life for himself. So he made his way to the coast and sailed for America as a stowaway. Discovered at sea, the youth was turned over to the captain, a cruel man, who upon landing in New York bound the boy out for service for seven years to repay his fare. To what trade young Wendel was apprenticed is not known but thought to be weaving, as he followed that occupation next and was often called Wendel the weaver.

In 1776 Wendel married Julianna Romer and lived at Little York, Pennsylvania. That same year war broke out between the colonists and the mother country. Now Wendel was brave but prudent. For the first time in his life he was enjoying something of security. He did not take up arms against either side but was suspected of being in sympathy with England. As the struggle waxed hot, he suffered indignities at the hands of the rebels. Once they were so close to seizing him that Wendel had to hide under the floor of his house. Before giving up the search, the soldiers thrust their swords through cracks in the floor without injuring him. Wendel began to dream again of peace and plenty when under the protection of the British flag.

By the year 1786 he had a wife and four children to consider. He sold what couldn't be carried on pack horses, and, driving their cattle before them, the Weigeles moved to Detroit. Here Wendel met a young Hessian soldier named Leonard Kratz, who had fought on the side of the British and who had come from a village near Frankfort-on-Main. A friendship sprang up between the two men that was to last the rest of their lives, three of their children intermarrying. They had one aim in common—land of their own in Canada.

Leonard seems to have been the more venturesome as he tried settling in Gosfield before England had paid the Indians for the land, but Wendel tarried near Detroit, hesitating to risk Indian uprisings. As soon as the government grants to the Loyalists were thrown open to settlers, about the year 1792, Wendel took possession of Lot No. 6, on Lake Erie. Here he raised his large family of eleven children and

took an English spelling of his name—Wigle. With much back-breaking work he began clearing his land and acquired more until, at his death, he owned 3,000 acres of the best farm land in the southern part of Essex County. The date of his death is not recorded, but his wife died in 1824. They were buried on the homestead. During the summer of 1925 their remains were removed to Greenhill Cemetery, Kingsville, where a fine monument has been erected to their memory.

Wendel left him surviving the following children: John, born in Pennsylvania on December 21, 1778. He married Susanna Scratch, eldest daughter of his father's friend, and they had fifteen children; Wendel, born in Pennsylvania, December 17, 1781, married Isabella Scratch, Leonard's second daughter. They had fifteen children; Kate, born in Pennsylvania, married Theodore Malott, who settled on Lot 13, Gosfield, E.D. Their children totalled twelve. Elizabeth, born in Pennsylvania, became the wife of Michael Fox and had ten children. Sarah, born in Gosfield, August 26, 1798, married Solomon Shepley, and had eight children. Maudlin married Jacob Fox and had seven children. Julianna, born in Colchester, April 14, 1789, married George Fox and had twelve children. Mary, born in Gosfield, June 20, 1793, married Peter Scratch and had twelve children. Joseph, born March 22, 1791, married Euphemia Miller, and they had fourteen children. Christopher married Mary Wilkinson, and they had two children. Michael married first Julianna Tofflemeyer and second Prudence Chapman. He had sixteen children.

Now all of Wendel's sons inherited large farms and were successful farmers. His daughters have been described as tall girls, attractive and industrious, and any young man of the community considered himself lucky to marry one of them. They in turn had large families until at the first Wigle reunion during the summer of 1872, 800 relatives gathered to picnic in the Theodore Wigle grove. At the time a Wigle history was written. In 1931, their descendants were recorded as 8,000. But the Wigle family of Essex County is not prominent because of numbers alone.

While agriculture has always been the main industry of this people, many of them have taken a conspicuous part in the religious, political and educational life of the community they were instrumental in founding. Since the fourth generation there has been a marked tendency for many members of the family to follow such professions as medicine, dentistry, surgery, the ministry, law, teaching and engineering. They can even boast of a few artists and writers.

In politics they are pretty well divided, but they always take a keen interest in the development of their country. Solomon Wigle, the twelfth son of John and Susanna Wigle, was the first member of the Provincial Parliament for this district. He served one term—from 1866 to 1869. He was reeve of the township for twelve years, warden of the county for one term, and for several years prior to his death township treasurer. Solomon was also awarded the first government contract to carry mail from Blenheim to Amherstburg and from Kings-

ville to Windsor. This was given him in 1860, and two or three of his boys took their turns driving the four-horse stage over the mail route. Solomon's Alfred, for twenty-three years postmaster of Windsor, used to talk of those times.

Another son, Lewis, gave up clerking in a Leamington store at 17 to drive the stage over the Kingsville to Windsor route. Leamington always counted Lewis Wigle among its old-time leading townsmen, but Kingsville too claims "Lew", for he was born and raised near the outskirts of our town. After accumulating a little money, Lewis went back to school and presently went into the mercantile business for himself. Having acquired some valuable land near Leamington, Lewis retired from business in 1891 and devoted his time to his farm and buying tobacco for the Empire Tobacco Company. He was instrumental in having constructed the Leamington & St. Clair railroad, of which he was president until that road was absorbed by the Michigan Central. At only 22, Lewis was beginning to make his influence felt in politics by serving at that time as reeve of the Township of Mersea. He held this office until he was 29 when he had the honour of being the youngest member elected to the Ontario Legislature. He served several terms, part of the time in the Provincial House and part in the Dominion. He was also mayor of Leamington for seven years. Lewis lived to be a very old man and was always considered one of Leamington's most colorful characters.

A third son of Solomon Wigle, Colonel Ernest S. Wigle, B.A., K.C., V.D., is always proudly claimed as one of Kingsville's sons, because he was born and lived until early manhood on the home-stead, Lot 3, Concession 1, E.D., Gosfield South. Like John Wendel Wigle, young "Ern" had a rugged constitution. As a young man he delighted in sports and excelled at them. His sound body and mind served him well all his life. He started off his career by matriculating with honors to Toronto University, where he continued his studies until, in 1884, he received his B.A. degree. Next he studied law with White & Ellis of Windsor, and in 1887 was called to the Bar. That same year he formed a partnership with Oscar E. Fleming. Several barristers were to make up his firm over the years. In municipal life he served eleven years on the Windsor Board of Education, acting as chairman for three years, also as mayor for several years—once late in life. He was a member of the Board of Park Management since its organization in 1917. That year he ran as Conservative candidate of the Union Government but was defeated by the late Hon. W. C. Kennedy, who was supported by the heavy French vote of the community on the plea of "No Conscription." Back in 1874 "Ern" Wigle enlisted as a private in "B" Troop of the First Hussars in Kingsville, and later in the 21st Essex Fusiliers, passed from one rank to the other until, in 1912, he became its commanding officer. In October, 1914, after the outbreak of the First World War he enlisted and organized the Eighteenth Battalion, which he commanded in France until the summer of 1916, when he returned to Canada on the death of his wife. Upon his return he commanded the Third Brigade, Camp Borden Training Camp, and was promoted to a full colonel in

1917. For years Colonel Wigle took a deep interest in Boy Scout work and was its District Commissioner since its organization in Canada in 1910. An Anglican, Colonel Wigle also held the highest office that a layman can hold in the Diocese of Huron—Chancellor of the Diocese; his appointment took place in May, 1931. "Ern" Wigle, like his brother, "Lew", lived to a great age and is remembered by a large circle of friends and relatives as a successful lawyer, an eloquent speaker, a good business man and a pleasant gentleman whose memory of names and faces was always flattering to his acquaintances.

Speaking of members of Parliament, there was Lambert P. Wigle, a son of Philip Wigle and great grandson of the second Wendel Wigle, one of Kingsville's most successful and wealthy farmers, who represented South Essex in the Ontario Legislature for six years. He was a staunch Liberal and a solid citizen well liked by all who knew him.

While discussing a member of the Wendel Wigle line, let us go back a few generations to Theodore Wigle, tenth child of Wendel and Susanna Wigle, because a number of successful members of the family claim him as an ancestor. Theodore was born June 19, 1821, on what is called the back settlement, Third Concession, Lot No. 10. At 16 he served in the militia during the Rebellion of 1837-38, as non-commissioned officer, under Captain Malott. In the year 1850 he was elected a member of the first township council and served one year. Re-elected in 1855, he served five consecutive terms. In 1860 he was elected to the office of deputy reeve, which office he held for five years. In 1865 he was elected reeve, which office he filled for nine years, the last one of which he served as warden, making in all 20 years of county and township service. Upon retiring from office, the members of the county presented him with a testimonial certificate for his long and efficient service in behalf of the township in which he lived. A grandson who bears his name is now living on part of Theodore's lands.

And there was Hamilton Wigle, B.A., D.D., Rev. Mr. Wigle belonged to the Michael Wigle branch. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree at Victoria University in 1889, and in the same year was ordained to the Methodist ministry. In 1892 he went west, where he held pastorates at Carmen, Regina and Winnipeg. In 1900 he was elected secretary of the Manitoba and Northwest Conference. In 1904 he was elected the first president of the Saskatchewan Conference. He was elected a member of two World Sunday School Conventions, one being held in Jerusalem in 1904 and the other in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1912. He travelled on all the continents except Australia. In 1910 he accepted an invitation to Trinity Church, Amherst, N.S. In 1914 he became pastor of the Wesley Smith Memorial Church in Halifax. He was elected president of the Nova Scotia Methodist Conference in 1916. From Halifax in 1917 he was called to the Principalship of Mount Allison Ladies' College — the largest institution of its kind in Canada. In 1925 he was elected a member of the United Church Council, which consummated the union of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Canada. In 1926

he was elected president of the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada. He published several books and in 1931 collaborated with Dr. Ora A. Wigle in writing "History of the Wigle Family and Their Descendants", from which the writer of this brief account has borrowed extensively in commenting upon Rev. Mr. Wigle and others. After his retirement he died several years ago at Preston, Ontario.

In the informative history just mentioned, it is interesting to note the names of 76 descendants of the family who were practising medicine, dentistry, and surgery at that time or had practised one of these professions. Among them was Dr. Fred Wigle, son of Isaac A. Wigle and of the Michael Wigle Branch, who practised medicine at Kingsville before the late Dr. J. P. Lee took over his practice upon his death in 1898. It has been said Doctor Fred was not only highly respected in this community but loved by all who knew him. He died young, and following his death, his widow, Ora A. Wigle, above-named (of the Wendel Wigle Branch of the family), a daughter of Horatio Wigle, studied medicine. Securing her diploma in 1903, she accepted a position in the Memorial Hospital, New York. In a short time she was appointed superintendent and later left to go into practice for herself at Brooklyn, Michigan. From there she moved to Detroit, where she opened an office in the same building in which her brother, Dr. Lewis Wigle, had his dental quarters. After a brilliant career, upon the death of her father, she retired and returned to her old home at Ruthven where she took over the care of the homestead. For several years she did a little writing, a little professional work and took a deep interest in all public matters. Doctor Ora died over a year ago.

Kingsville's own "Mort" Wigle is gone too — a veteran of the South African War and Windsor's Chief of Police for a number of years.

We used to see on the streets of Kingsville, going cheerfully about his business—in turn music teacher, piano agent and tuner—a blind cousin, Sylvanus Wigle, who never let his sightless eyes handicap him. He saw to it that he secured an education at Brantford that enabled him to support himself and his wife and child. No one ever heard Sylvanus pity himself. Instead he would have his little joke about not needing any light. Nobody had to help Sylvanus financially as the years crept up on him.

And there were other Wigles whom everybody in Kingsville knew. There was Hubert, a son of Adam R., of the John Wigle Branch. He kept the old home farm going for many years, then moved to town, where he carried on the leading farm machinery business. He served his town as reeve, mayor and commissioner.

The first car to be seen in Kingsville was driven here by a Wigle. Horace's boy, Milford, thought the home folks ought to see the latest thing in transportation. There was plenty of time to run to front yards to watch the Ford pass as you could hear it coming almost

before you could see it. On the four corners a crowd stood to stare as this wonder of wonders noisily turned to chug back to Detroit.

Of successful farmers among the Wigles there seems no end; a failure would be the exception. You have only to look at their crops, their well-kept houses and big barns to know what kind of farmers they are.

Of merchants, to mention a few, there was Simon Wigle, a son of Wendel, leading timber merchant of the county for many years. The late David Conklin, who died May 7, 1952, aged 97, got his business start with Uncle Sime. The Wigle descendants claim Mr. Conklin too; his grandparents were Wendel and Isabella Wigle. His story is told at length elsewhere. Included is Daniel Wigle, a son of Wendel Wigle, who at one time owned two mills at Kingsville and also sawmills in Gosfield and Colchester Townships. Daniel's son, Colin, has been described as a born mechanic. He and his father constructed the first roller process flouring mill in this section of the country. When the lumber business fell off, "Coly" turned over to the flour milling business and made good.

THE ULCH FAMILY

We have noted previously that Andrew Ulch, then known variously as Ulcock, Alcock, Ulcoch, Ulish, and Olch, was one of Kingsville's earliest settlers. He was allocated 200 acres which extended from Division Street to Laurel Street and from the lake to a point somewhat north of the town limits. This land was assigned to him in 1793 on condition that he build a mill on Mill Brook. Since he received his crown patent in 1797, we have no doubt that he became Kingsville's first industrialist some time before 1797.

The family chronicles of the Ulch family are not complete. But it appears that one of Andrew's sons, John, remained in the Kingsville district after his father sold the town property in 1816, and that John Ulch had one son, also named John.

John Ulch Jr. was a blacksmith, who carried on his trade on Main Street West on and adjoining the premises now owned by Nelson Layman, beginning in the 1870's. This business was continued by his brother, Wesley, during his life until about the year 1925. John Ulch Jr. had five other sons, who were Andrew, Joshua, Edward, Rudolph, and John L., and one daughter, Esther who married Samuel Bruner.

There are numerous descendants of the pioneer family of Ulcoch or Ulch still living in the Kingsville vicinity, many of them intermarried in other families.

CHAPTER VII

Institutions and Organizations

"By uniting we stand; by dividing we fall"—John Dickinson

THE CANADIAN LEGION

Kingsville Branch 188 of the Canadian Legion was formed in 1930 comprising veterans of the South African and First World Wars. Charter members were: A. B. Smith, Rev. S. P. Irwin, J. P. Golden, Edward Lucas, James Cook, W. Linsley, C. R. McCallum, Fred Gooden, A. J. White, Jas. Asquith, Fred Mains, W. Deacon, C. A. Golden and Geo. C. King. Honorary members were E. L. Frost, Isaac Lucas and Len Allen, the latter being replaced upon his death by his son, Arthur Allen. Clubrooms were over what is now Pillsworth's Store where oldtimers like C. A. Quick and C. S. Miller, along with others interested in veterans' welfare, attended many a keno and social event. Today there are six life members, all over 70 years of age, Tom Knight, W. Martin, Ed Tripp, Angus MacDonald, Arthur Gregory, and Albert Graham.

Activities of Kingsville Branch have expanded at an ever increasing pace throughout the years. In 1934, grave markers were made for all veteran's locations in the cemetery and in 1935 the Cenotaph was built in front of the Anglican Church from a sketch made, as conceived by Rev. J. A. Davies, by Fred Gale. To the names of those who paid the supreme sacrifice in World War I, a plaque was later added listing comrades fallen during World War II. In 1939 the Branch took part in welcoming the King and Queen when they visited Windsor and soon thereafter, the second war brought forth the loyal anxiety to serve that one finds in every Legion Branch. In January of 1940 the first consignment of cigarettes and tobacco was sent overseas and such services continued regularly throughout the war. In 1942, Mayhew Hall was purchased and the following year the Ladies' Auxiliary to Branch 188 was formed and added greatly to the accomplishment of war work. The Auxiliary has since given aid to sick and needy veterans and their families, and today, under the Zone I Commander, Mrs. Leta Fox of Kingsville, and the local president, Mrs. Eva Ulch, continues to remember those serving overseas by sending boxes and comforts.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the unconditional surrender of our enemies was held in the United Church on May 8th, 1945, while on May 11th of that year a reception banquet was tendered to men who had returned from overseas service, and, so none might be for-

gotten, a second reception was held two years later for those who could not attend the first. Since the second war events have continued with Divine Services, Remembrance Days, children's Christmas parties and the continued activities of a Toy Hospital which, under the chairmanship of Herb Talbot has repaired, renovated and distributed used toys not only locally but as far away as Windsor and vicinity. The Branch is sponsoring a Bantam ball team and accepts every opportunity to be of service to the community. Many make use of the Legion facilities and keen interest is shown in such recreation as darts, bowling, golf, cards and the many social events to which the public is invited. The service officer, W. Linsley, is always on hand to give advice on pensions or other veterans' affairs, for the policy of Branch 188 is to adhere to the principles and aims of the Canadian Legion and which are well worth quoting: "To constitute an association of those who have served in Her Majesty's Navy, Army, Air Force or any auxiliary force or service; which association shall be democratic and non-sectarian and shall not be affiliated to or connected directly or indirectly with any political party or organization. The Legion shall stand for loyalty to the reigning sovereign and to Canada, for maintenance of the foundation principles of the British Constitution, for the development of a national and united spirit, and while striving for peace, goodwill and friendship among all nations, will advocate the maintenance in and by Canada of adequate and efficient forces on sea, on land and in the air, for the defence of our country and for the discharge of those obligations which rest upon us by virtue of our partnership in the British Commonwealth. The Legion shall stand for strong and united comradeship among all those who have served throughout the Commonwealth, so that neither their rights nor their interests shall be forgotten, and that their welfare and that of their dependents, especially the dependents of the disabled, sick, aged and needy, may always be safeguarded."

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

Early in 1950, a group of local business women organized the Kingsville Business and Professional Women's Club, and in May of that year the Kingsville Club was chartered, with Miss Wilma Hay elected president for the first year and Miss Beth Valentine serving as president for the following term. The club has an active membership of 46 and has already assisted notably in several projects of importance to the town. The members have organized the fund-raising drive for the local Arthritic Clinic, assisted with girls' camps and helped welcome many New Canadian citizens.

Whereas the Canadian Federation of B. & P.W.'s Clubs is designed primarily to improve the status of its members, it locally creates interest in community welfare, widens business and social activities and develops such qualities as leadership, organization and public speaking. Its effect is to encourage women's thinking on a national and international level towards the better understanding of ideologies throughout the world's various regions for the purpose of promoting true peace and goodwill.



TURKEY SHOOT FALL 1896

This picture was taken at the farm of William Sanford now owned by Philemon and Mrs. Percy Sanford.
Standing, left to right: Gorley Crumb, Henry Rogers, Philemon Sanford, Arthur Pearce, Frank Sanford, Frank Pearce, Ted Miner, Dr. George Rogers (in far rear), Jack Miner, Jack Bailey, George Miner, Jack Pearce, Tommy Wigle, Will Hickmott, Ed Barnett, Walt Creaser, Manley Squires, Charlie Miner, Norm Crumb, Orr Slater, Willie Ulch.
Second Row: Will Rogers, Percy Sanford, Jack McDonald, Orlando Bailey, William Sanford, Bonnie Wigle.
Third Row: Albert Pearce, Lou Pearce, Ern Slater, Wm. Long.
Fourth Row: Alvin Sanford, Frank Peterson, John Slater. Front Row: Morley Sanford, Carl Peterson, Carl Miner.

FISH HATCHERY

Tying in with one of Kingsville's main industries, is the Government Fish Hatchery which, under the management of a Mr. Parker, moved from Sandwich to the foot of Division Street, Kingsville, in 1915.

Successive managers of the plant include the names of Parker to 1917, Samuel Adamson to about 1932, Montgomery as an acting manager for a short period, Joseph Oakes to 1944 and A. E. Mouck currently.

About 55 million whitefish are annually transplanted in April to natural spawning grounds, particularly favorable near Pelee Island. In addition, some 45 million pickerel are distributed each April along the many natural spawning grounds from Colchester to Wheatley and Port Crewe as well as near Pelee Island.

IMPERIAL ORDER DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE

It is interesting, in this centenary year, to consider those who laid the foundations for a Chapter of the I.O.D.E. in Kingsville.

It was in April, 1928, that Mrs. W. H. Hellems called an organization meeting to learn something of the aims and objectives of the order, and for her efforts in this regard was appointed honorary regent. Mrs. George Hoover was elected regent, and the Nora Hoover Chapter, I.O.D.E., came into being. Other original officers elected were, Mrs. R. J. McLachlin, first vice-regent; Mrs. R. W. Conklin, second vice-regent; Mrs. A. Eastman, secretary; Mrs. W. M. Webb, treasurer; Miss Florence Hellems, "Echoes" secretary; Mrs. Kenneth Brown, educational secretary; and Mrs. R. B. Samuels, standard bearer.

Membership was at first restricted to 30 with a waiting list, but this number has grown until it is today 55, with annual receipts now totalling over \$1600 as compared to the original collection of \$130.

From the earliest years the interest and enthusiasm of the members has been well maintained in raising funds through teas, bridge parties, bake sales, auction and rummage sales, and by individual donations for the many worthy projects sponsored by the order. Some of these are the Essex County Sanitorium, Alexander Hall for the Blind, libraries and equipment for schools in Northern Ontario, cartons of food and clothing for Britain, and locally the V.O.N., the Arthritic Clinic, scholarships and prizes for the schools and veterans' children, as well as help given many needy families in our district throughout the years.

I.O.D.E. programs have included the discussion of many subjects of national and international interest as indicated by the changing times.

Those who have filled the office of regent are: Mrs. George

Hoover, Mrs. J. S. Green, Mrs. A. R. Keele, Mrs. M. T. Scratch, Mrs. Ken Rae, Mrs. R. W. Conklin, Mrs. W. M. Webb, Mrs. Garnet Fraser, Mrs. A. D. Hember, Mrs. Stanley Quick, Miss E. D. Bowes, Mrs. C. L. Oberle, and the present regent, Mrs. Don McCay.

While the order anticipates the need for expansion in membership, outlook and vision, it is justifiably proud of its accomplishments, and never loses sight of its main objective which is to strengthen the ties between Canada and the Motherland and to cement the bonds of Empire.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS CONCORD LODGE NO. 142

Concord Lodge No. 142 was instituted by dispensation on the 25th day of May 1874, and was granted a Charter on the 22nd day of February 1875. Charter members were Bros. David W. Gordon, Ezra Malott, Wm. McCain, Wm. Chapman, George Broadwell, Dr. Andrew Wigle, John J. Malott, and George Gilbeau.

The lodge held their meetings in the old Masonic Hall which was over Cascadden's Store for 14 years, until the present Hall was built in 1889.

THE JAYCEES

On October 17th, 1949, a small band of civic-minded young men formed the Kingsville Junior Chamber of Commerce, under the presidency of Neil Taylor. A charter was presented on November 17th to the new club, popularly known as the Jaycees. Succeeding presidents have been Burns Hutchinson, Bob Voakes and Lloyd Bailey.

The purposes of this organization are: (a) to promote the welfare of the community, particularly in regard to its younger men; (b) to provide a common meeting ground for young men in all walks of life and to promote solutions of their problems; and (c) to provide training in leadership and the active fulfilment of the processes of democracy.

Since organization, the Jaycees have been active in the fields of tourist promotion and community affairs. In 1950 they compiled and distributed a tourist directory listing the names and addresses of over 1900 residents. In 1951 an information booth was operated, serving those arriving by land and water from all parts of this continent and from abroad. Several American Power Boat Squadrons have been welcomed in co-operation with the Senior Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council. In preparation for the 1952 Region V Convention, Awards Chairman Bill McLaren submitted a digest in the field of tourist promotion and was successful in capturing first prize in this first contest of its kind.

Community work started with the 1949 Christmas parade, an event growing annually in stature. A great deal has been done for the improvement of Wigle Park, a highlight of which was the festive decoration by Blake Sanford and his committee for the 1951 Christ-

mas season. A public stand was taken in favor of a new high school. In political affairs the importance of all elections, whether municipal, provincial or federal, is always emphasized, while the club, of course, maintains a strictly non-partisan status.

The Kingsville Junior Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic organization which continually looks toward greater achievement.

THE KINSMEN AND KINETTE CLUBS

In November, 1945, a group of young men interested in the welfare of the town met with several Leamington and Windsor Kinsmen to discuss the possibilities of forming a Kinsmen Service Club in Kingsville. Because of this small group's enthusiasm, the Kingsville Kinsmen Club soon became a reality, and, at a special dinner meeting attended by some 200 visiting Kinsmen, the new organization received its charter on February 7th, 1946. Since founding, its successive presidents have been Claude Shean, Jim Babcock, Steve McManus, Glen Corlett, Bob Graham, Hugh Secord, Mac Simmers and Vic Lucas.

Perhaps most outstanding among the club's many projects has been its successful subscription drives for the purchase and operation of a free ambulance service to residents of the district. This beautiful Cadillac ambulance has already travelled thousands of miles in making its 857 trips to date. The T. B. Seal campaigns, free chest X-rays, Department of Education Musical Appreciation Concerts, the taping of bicycles and, more recently, the sponsoring of a midget baseball team, have been the main items of the Kinsmen program.

The Kinsmen meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, when they have an opportunity to share in good fellowship as they listen to an outstanding speaker, or enter into a timely discussion concerning future projects. From the club's inception until quite recently, Lt. Col. F. K. Jasperson, Q.C., D.S.O., served as its first Honorary President.

In the fall of 1947, a small group of Kinsmen's wives decided to organize a Kinette Club. Violet Fleming was elected the first president of an original group of 24 members which has met on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The new club voted to act as an auxiliary to the Kinsmen Club, assisting them in the T. B. Clinic and in fund raising. A few months later the Kinettes became interested in making infant clothing for the V.O.N. This prompted an increase in service work to include the sending of two Girl Guides to Summer Camp each year, the packing of Christmas boxes for needy families, and the "adoption" of an Indian lad confined to the Essex County Sanitorium. Assistance has also been given the Winnipeg Flood Fund, Leamington District Hospital, Salvation Army, Kingsville Boy's Band, C.A. & R.S. Committee, Children's Aid Society and town fire victims.

At the present time both the Kinsmen and the Kinettes are thriving clubs, bending their efforts towards the welfare of the community.



KINGSVILLE BASEBALL TEAM, 1908

During the years about 1908 the area south of Maple Street, between Division Road and Lansdowne Avenue, was surrounded by a board fence to form a baseball park. The above picture of the team of 1908 shows, standing, left to right: R. H. Pickard, Tom Sansbury, Art Wolds, A. Dingman, Milton Wigle, Sidney Cook, W. T. Conklin. Front row: Guy Brown, Fred Harris, Alvin Scratch, Frank Mayhew, Lloyd Bracken.

THE LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club of Kingsville received its charter on May 10th, 1933, and had for its first President the late Fred Crawford.

The club was organized during one of the worst economic depressions the world had ever known, which handicapped operations doubly. It was not only difficult to raise money to help people during this period, but more people than usual needed help. However, through careful financing as well as the generous services of local doctors, dentists and others, scores of children were fitted with needed glasses and many minor operations were made possible.

When funds became more plentiful in the early 1940's, the club was enabled to expand. The small park at the corner of Division and Mill Streets was opened. The Scout Hall was built and made available to several youth organizations. The playground was opened for the use of the community. Support was afforded to the V.O.N. and safety patrols for the public schools were encouraged. Sponsorship has been given to the Easter Seal drive for crippled children and the Red Shield drive for the Salvation Army, as it has always been given to any project which forwards the welfare of the community.

The officers and members of the Lions Club of Kingsville are justly proud of the part they have been able to play in the interests of the town and township for the past 19 years.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

For approximately fifty years the Public Library has played its quiet but effective part in the life of the town. In Kingsville, as in so many Ontario centres, it originated in the public spirit of the Mechanics' Institute. The Library was first housed in a Conklin building, in a room over McCay's Hardware Store. Here Mr. Richard Maycock, father of the Kingsville architect, served as librarian for many years prior to 1908, being followed at that time by Mrs. Tulian.

The present Library Building, approved and aided by the Carnegie Institute, was erected by the Oxley brothers in 1914. Its contract price of \$4,300 provides an interesting contrast with present day building costs. Librarians in the Carnegie building have been Mrs. Tulian until 1920, Mr. Owen Harris until 1940, Mrs. Mary Elliott until 1944, and Mrs. Josie I. Wigle currently.

There is a regrettable lack of early records to speak for the service and growth of this Library, but the growth of registered borrowers from 275 in 1918 to 977 in 1951 does indicate its expanding influence in the community. Specialized services in the Children's Room and Reference Room, as well as organized co-operation with the Public School and the Essex County Library all relate the same story of growth and outreach.

KINGSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

To acquire the three R's in the early days of Kingsville was more arduous than to acquire a University education today. The self-giving efforts of teachers and the laborious pertinacity of settlers is the grim yet inspiring background of our school history.

The beginnings of education as an institutional project began in a log cabin with Robert McMurray, the schoolmaster. Long before 1854 he was the only teacher in Gosfield. His career covers a span of 52 years. The Illustrated Atlas of Canada (1881) gives us a picture of this rugged old character. "When the law compelling teachers to pass examinations before county officials came into force, he presented himself at Sandwich for examination, but on being questioned in regard to some rules of grammar, replied, 'Gentlemen, I know nothing at all about grammar as I pretend to have only a plain English education.' " Col. James King and Col. David Macdonald also were pioneers carrying on classes in the living quarters of log cabins.

The names of Iler and Baltzer follow that of Col. Macdonald in the area west of Kingsville. During the years prior to 1870 they laboured in a square, stone schoolhouse which preceded the present section school.

In Kingsville proper, Col. King, who had been teaching for some time at the Malotte homestead, finally inspired a community effort which in 1844 led to a building near Main St. West, probably halfway between Main St. and Pearl St., back of the present Chevrolet-Oldsmobile garage.

The site of our present Public School on Walnut Street dates from 1856 when it was purchased by public monies from Mrs. Polly Stewart. The early history of the school has been difficult to obtain because all the original records were destroyed by fire in 1890. But we do know from other sources that Col. King, at the time of the purchase of the new site, was local superintendent of schools for Gosfield and that Jasper Golden, a licensed teacher, taught for five years from 1858 to 1863.

In 1862 a new frame building was erected in which Duncan McNaughton and Marion Cooper served as teacher and assistant in 1866. In 1870 a new two-roomed brick building replaced the old frame structure. The year 1871 marks the first appointment of county inspectors when school inspection passed from the old system of local superintendents to the unified control of the county.

During this period, school attendance increased greatly. By 1876 there were no less than 10 schools in Gosfield, of which one, on Division Road North, was for coloured people. During this same year we find Kingsville building a larger four-roomed brick school. Inspector James Bell in his report to the County Council for that year states: "The village of Kingsville has now lately finished a building inferior to none in the County, except, perhaps, the one in Windsor. It has excellent accommodations for four departments of which three

are in operation and very well managed. The school has a large playground in two divisions, well-fenced."

In the County Records we find that in 1881 teachers' salaries ranged from \$360 to \$575 per annum; that average attendance for Kingsville in 1882 was 144 pupils, and that in the year 1883, Dr. Maxwell began his long and worthy career as school inspector for Essex County. In his 48 years of service he left many constructive and graphic reports. Principals in the period from 1876 to 1890 include the names of John Henning, Adam Ross, L. C. Palmer, Mr. Davidson and Mr. Henderson.

In 1890 the perpetual hope of every schoolboy materialized in a fire which completely destroyed the school. But his liberty was not for long. By 1892, a new, six-roomed brick building was erected on the same site, with John Maycock and Newell Woodiwiss acting as architects. While it was under construction the pupils were taught in the Boss Washer factory, a washing-machine factory on Queen St., near Main St. West.

In 1891-92 advanced grade work was taught privately by Mr. Teetzel, first over the present Salmoni Store, then in an extra room of the new school. His efforts made it possible for local students to enter Model School and acquire Third Class certificates for teaching. By 1901 a grant from County Council made Advanced Grade (Fifth Class) work free to all students desiring it.

Mr. Henderson carried on as principal almost to the turn of the century, followed briefly by Mr. Ward and Mr. Chisholm, and then by Mr. Voaden whose term extended over several years.

Eventually crowded conditions again demanded more space, and in 1901 two more rooms were added to the school.

The years from 1901 to 1952 were ones of continuous growth and expansion meeting the educational standards of the province and the needs of the community. The many distinguished students who have passed through the school are evidence of the high degree of efficiency with which the school has functioned.

During this fifty year period there have been but three principals: Mr. Voaden until 1907, then Mr. W. J. Elliott for a period of 35 years. He was one of the outstanding educationalists of the province and left an unforgettable imprint on each of the 1015 children whom he guided through the Entrance Class. Since 1942 Mr. William Brundage has been carrying on in the best tradition of an imaginative, industrious and public spirited principal.

It should also be stated that during this fifty years there have been but five secretary-treasurers of the Board: Dr. Allworth until 1909, Mr. E. A. Brown through 1913, Mr. William Valentine through 1916, Mr. Robert Black until his death in December 1948, and Mr. Glenn Corlett, who holds the position at the present time.

A brief statement of property and equipment expansion, dull though the facts may be, tells an interesting story of improvement



1906 CONTINUATION CLASS (GRADE NINE)

Back Row: Harry Harris, Russell Mercer, Lucy Matthew, Aurelian Wigle, Ray Kratz.

Second Row: Mabel Kratz, Ada Augustine, Milton Wigle, Mr. Voaden (principal), Douglas Wees, Madeline Scratch, Faith Kratz. Front Row: Jay Wigle, Margaret Hillis.

and modernization—of a community measuring up to the needs of its young. In 1915 we find an extra room being equipped. In 1918 a one-room primary school was constructed on property acquired from Mrs. Wellington Wigle. A new wing was added in 1921-22. Finally, in 1929, a three-room brick building replaced the one-room structure. Property purchases were, of course, made to provide the above expansion. As to equipment, in 1904 a firegong was purchased and fire-drill instituted. In 1905 a dozen galvanized pails were placed in the school for fire protection, and a new fence (cost \$102.60) was erected. In 1908 a complete set of fire escapes was installed (cost: \$215). In 1907 town water was piped to the school replacing the old well and pump. General sanitation improved under the close surveillance of the Board of Health. In 1918 the school was wired for the first time, and five lights were installed. By 1938 lights had been installed in all the rooms. In 1945 hot water tap facilities were made available. The above are only a few items picked at random to show how close we are to a past which we would today call primitive indeed.

The accelerated pace of health supervision during the last few years is even more marked. By 1914 the principle of employing school nurses was discussed and approved. However, no action was taken until 1943 when the V.O.N. contributed school nursing as part of its work. Not until 1922 do we find non-compulsory vaccinations being given, by Dr. Jenner, Medical Officer of Health. By 1923 a warm drink was given at noon hour. In 1933 the I.O.D.E. furnished 120 half-pints of milk daily to the primary school. Now, all school children receive milk at reduced prices. Dental surveys were not made until 1925. From 1938 Dr. Snider, as Medical Officer of Health gave yearly scarlet fever and diphtheria toxoids as well as vaccinations. Optical tests were also instituted. In 1942 a Junior Red Cross Society was formed, and in 1943 the V.O.N. began general health tests including eyes, teeth and tuberculosis skin tests.

We also see in this recent period a broadening and stimulating of educational interests. The importance of a library was stressed. Although a school library had existed since 1903, organized co-operation with the Public Library in 1947 initiated broader reading services. From 1911 to 1922 cadet training was part of the school program. Many a lad who marched in this corps later served his country heroically. Specialists who have been giving vocal training for the last thirty years have greatly increased the students' appreciation of music. Shop work and manual training were adopted to a degree in 1938 with the hope that the High School shop could eventually be used to introduce a useful and practical employment of young hands and young minds. Agricultural and school gardens were initiated the same year. In 1943 the Home and School Club convened for the first time to foster more sympathetic and intelligent relationships between parents and teachers. Above all, with the advent of our post war world, we find a wise and sensible stress being laid on citizenship and civic responsibility of which the contributions to character are basic in our security of tomorrow.

In conclusion, it can be said that the teachers in the Kingsville Public School have been of the best. They have been chosen wisely. The record of students winning the gold medal which formerly was awarded by the Amherstburg Echo Publishing Company to students in Essex County passing the entrance examinations with the highest standing is effective proof. Out of approximately 50 medals awarded in 26 years, 19 came to Kingsville students.

THE MASONIC ORDER

The official history of Masonry in Kingsville covers a period almost identical with that of the hamlet, village and town. St. George's Lodge No. 41 A.F. and A.M., received its charter under the date of March 9, 1852, from the Grand Lodge of England and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West. Soon after the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in 1855, St. George's established its affiliation with that body.

As part of the celebrations marking the centenary of St. George's the Lodge in 1952 has published its official history, compiled by V.W. Bro. W. M. Webb assisted by W. Bros. T. V. Maxwell and A. D. Hember. This 88-page volume traces the Lodge's activities in considerable detail, being based on a very careful study of the minutes for the entire 100 years.

The Lodge's first meeting was held in Kingsville on April 23, 1852, the installing master being W. Bro. Kolfage, of Thistle Lodge, Amherstburg, and with 15 other members of Thistle Lodge assisting. St. George's first master, installed that afternoon, was W. Bro. Thomas Hawkins, other officers being Bros. John Simons, Nelson Fuller, W. A. Haynes, John Wright, Fred A. Ambridge, and W. Irwin.

W. Bro. H. Lyle Statham is sitting master in this 100th year. Other officers are Bros. R. A. Salmoni, Jack Queen, W. Linsley, Glen Corlett, H. R. Cowan, Alex Thouren, Jack Graham, G. W. Hogarth, R. W. Moore, Jerome Plancke, and W. Bros. Ernest Blake, Jackson Palmer, Douglas Layman and Homer J. Arner.

During its early years the Lodge met in a room rented from Bro. Simons at the rate of £1 per month, later moving to Templar's Hall. During the years 1855 to 1858 the Lodge met at Union in Bro. H. J. Deming's store at a rental of \$25 per year.

On March 1, 1860, the Lodge held its first meeting in its own premises, now being Cascadden's Novelty Shop. W. Bro. Wm. J. Malott was master at that time. The present Lodge building was constructed in 1889, when W. Bro. E. Allworth was sitting master.

St. George's was sponsor of a lodge in Woodslee in 1880 and approved of the formation of a lodge in Leamington in 1872 and one in Essex in 1883.

St. George's history, entitled "100 Years With St. George's Lodge No. 41" is a worth while document, not only for members,

but for all who are interested in Kingsville's history. Typical is a list of masonic offences set forth by a committee of St. George's in 1859:

"Secession from the order; swearing (common); blasphemy; disbelief in God's word; dishonesty; perjury, deceit, falsehood, lying; adultery, fornication, seduction; evil speaking; uncharitableness, covetousness; murder, violence, cruelty, bloodshed; plots, conspiracy, treason; Sabbath breaking; imprudence; secret breaking; disobedience; clandestine associations; gambling; drunkenness; and any mean unmanly conduct or anything prohibited in the Word of God or that would be punished in a court of justice."

The value of St. George's to the moral fibre of Kingsville and district cannot be over-emphasized.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Erie Chapter No. 19, Order of the Eastern Star, Kingsville, Ontario, was granted a dispensation by James Phelps, acting Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of the provincial order, on Friday the thirteenth day of August, 1915. He constituted Erie Chapter and appointed Mrs. Nellie MacDonald as first Worthy Matron, Mr. Robert Healey as first Worthy Patron and Mr. W. A. Woodiwiss as first secretary.

Mrs. Alice Meadows, Worthy Grand Matron, installed the Chapter's officers and Victoria Chapter No. 1 of Windsor exemplified the degrees for the institution. There were 25 charter members of whom two, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Scratch, are still active members. On September 12th, 1916, Mrs. Lottie Phillips, W.G.M., assisted by Mrs. Laura E. Moore, Grand Marshall, conducted the first official inspection.

During the life of this Chapter to date there have been 36 Past Matrons of whom 22 are still active, 25 Past Patrons with 10 still active, and three District Deputy Grand Matrons, Mrs. Madge Peterson in 1926, Mrs. Sarah Sheats in 1937 and Mrs. Edna Keele in 1945. Erie Chapter's influence has been felt throughout the years in its charitable work, responding to all appeals, and has an enviable record in war work including bundles for Britain and aid to Sunnybrook Hospital. A number of the members joined the armed forces in the Second World War.

Under the direction of the present Worthy Matron, Mrs. R. Dawdy and Worthy Patron, Mr. J. Evan Burrows, this Chapter is continuing its good work with a membership of 107.

VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES

One of the greatest health needs of our town and schools was realized when, in September of 1944, through the earnest efforts of the late Dr. D. I. Snider, then medical officer of health, and Mr. F. O. Graham, then mayor, in conjunction with Miss Mary Ferguson of National Office in Ottawa, a Kingsville branch of the V.O.N. was established. Mr. Graham was elected president and Mrs. E. Blake, secretary, and the following month Miss Vera Bruner was appointed as nurse of our local Branch.

In September, 1948, Miss Bruner transferred to a new position in Bermuda and was replaced by Miss Jean Gilbert until February, 1952, when she transferred to the Preston Branch. Since that time, Miss Muriel Morgan has been carrying out the nursing duties in true V.O.N. fashion.

Kingsville is indeed fortunate in having experienced the devoted efficiency of these nurses as they serve the interests of the needy as well as the interests of preventive medicine within our community.

TELEGRAPH

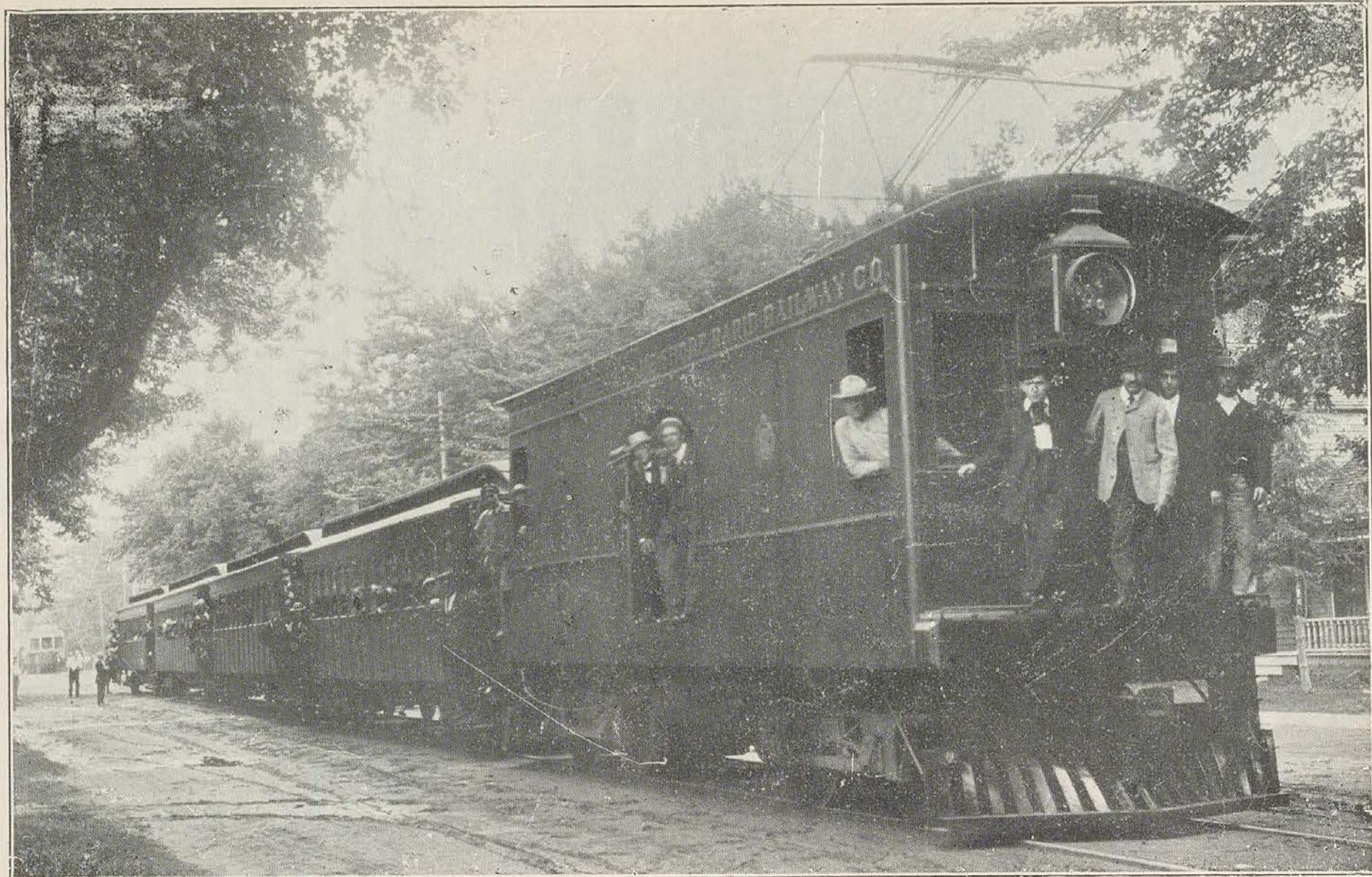
Some time prior to 1890, Capt. Wm. Malotte, whose forethought and progressiveness were well known, advanced the \$200 which was necessary to connect Kingsville with telegraph service, and the Great North Western Telegraph Company, with Wm. Kennedy as operator, was established locally.

Operations were first carried on in a frame building on the south side of Main Street West, but when it was destroyed by fire in 1896 the G.N.W. office was set up in C. S. Miller's corner Drug Store, now known as "Statham's". Colin Fox was the operator until the G.N.W. was replaced by the C.P.R. Telegraph, operated by Chas. Leggett in his store which is now known as "Cascadden's". Later the C.P.R. and C.N.R. joined forces and handled messages by telegraph from the R. H. Pickard Drug Store on the corner of Main and Division Streets until 1923, when C. R. McCallum, who had been an operator, took over and relocated north of the C. A. Quick Store, in the premises of E. L. Frost. Mr. Frost purchased the business in 1925 and carried on until fairly recent years, and when the C.N. Telegraph discontinued service, the C.P. Telegraph was taken over by Wm. Sanford, presently operating from an office in his residence on King Street, opposite the Kingsville Town Hall.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Historically, Kingsville played a part in one of the earliest rural telephone systems in Ontario when a line, built by Sam Scratch, Judson Scratch, Levi Palmer and C. A. Quick, was incorporated in 1905. Sam Scratch is the only surviving member of this original group who nailed 244 scantlings to fence posts to carry the single wire from the Roy Scratch farmhouse on the Second Concession of Gosfield South to the C. A. Quick home at the town limits and thence over Jim Sweet's blacksmith shop to Quick's store. The store relayed messages to Kingsville central which was then located in the rear of Layman's Drug Store. Each subscriber provided his own instrument and maintained his own portion of the line.

This system is still in operation today, being known as the Scratch and Palmer Telephone Line, with Ewart Palmer as President and Mrs. Michael Scratch as Secretary-Treasurer. It provides an interesting contrast to the modern dial telephone system now being readied for Kingsville residents.



THE W.E. and L.S. R.R. MOGUL

"The Mogul" of the Windsor Essex and Lake Shore Rapid Railway was well known during the years following 1907. This electric railway provided a valuable service to Essex County before the motor truck era.

Kingsville 1952

CHAPTER VIII

"New things succeed, as former things grow old"—Robert Herrick

Kingsville of today is heir to a rich heritage from the past. Its past 100 years have seen the district move completely from the natural state to become one of the most intensive agricultural areas of Canada. Unspoiled by the glacial period, the soil of the district is fertile from the product of thousands of years of great trees. Low-lying and level, the land has been drained by great ditches and by underdrains of tile manufactured locally.

The mild climate enjoyed by this most southerly district in Canada has emphasized the value of its fertile soil. Tobacco, fruit, and vegetables are grown in the sand loam areas, and corn, canning crops, and grains in the clay loam areas. The versatile nature of the soil allows farmers to shift from one crop to another as demand for the various crops changes. Rainfall normally suits the growing season. Excesses of rain or drought are almost unknown.

This prosperous farming community has been a chief reason for Kingsville's growth as a town—as a market town serving the farmers' needs. Along with this natural resource has been another—Kingsville's fine harbor, with its neighboring sand beaches. Lake Erie has been good to Kingsville.

The natural harbor has been improved by man-made construction of a docking system. Due to this harbor, and to the fine fishing grounds of Pigeon Bay, Kingsville is the home port for one of the most extensive commercial fishing fleets on the Great Lakes. This fleet comprises 30 vessels, engaging well over 100 men for most of the year, and producing a normal catch worth over a million dollars annually.

Kingsville's beaches and balmy summer climate have made it a resort town whose popularity has grown steadily through the past 75 years. Hiram Walker and his sons did much to develop the resort trade in the 1880's and the 1890's, constructing the old Mettawas Hotel and promoting the railway. About 40 years ago, summer resorting was intensified with the opening of Cedar Beach, three miles west of the town. Now the beaches on each side of Kingsville comprise a most highly developed summer resort.

The resorters usually have begun as tourists, attracted to Kingsville by the Miner bird sanctuary and by the natural beauty of

the town and surrounding district. Close proximity to Detroit was a chief reason for early settlement of the Kingsville district in the 1780's and 1790's. This same nearness to Michigan and Ohio has been a deciding factor in much of the resort development.

The Jack Miner Bird Sanctuary has made Kingsville famous throughout the continent. A top preference of most tourists, the Sanctuary has been a major support for the commercial life of the town.

Three large tobacco factories, each with several storage warehouses, operate in Kingsville. Total employment in these factories reaches 150 men and 250 women during the winter season. The canning factory of Canadian Canners, Limited, forms a considerable industry. One of Southwestern Ontario's oldest and largest lumber and building supply industries, Conklin Planing Mills, Limited, has its headquarters in Kingsville. Kingsville Co-Operative Supply Association and Kingsville Coal and Dock Co., Ltd., are also semi-industrial enterprises.



A View of Kingsville's Excellent Harbor Between the Pier and Dock
Industries operating on a somewhat smaller scale include Chamberlin Metal Weatherstrip Co., Limited, Rankin Forge and Die Co., and Kingsville Pump and Machine Co., Limited.

Most of Kingsville's people are employed within the town limits, although hundreds commute daily to factories and offices in nearby Windsor and Detroit.

Commercial enterprises in Kingsville flourish in providing for the needs of the townspeople and those in the surrounding district. The following are included in Kingsville's business establishments:

Arner & Goddard — contractors
Allen's Ladies & Children's Wear — Mrs. Iona Allen, 1950.
Bailey's Auto Electric Service — Jeff Bailey
Betty's Beauty Shop — Mrs. Betty Kaufman
Birchlea Villa — Gerald Smith
Bowman, Dr. A. E. — Veterinarian
Bell Telephone Co. of Canada
Brewers' Retail Store
Baltzer, Angus — Fisherman
Burrows News Stand — E. Burrows
Brown & Brown Fish Co.
Brodie's Groceteria — David Brodie, 1942 — formerly Fred Gerrish.
Brown, Guy W. — Jeweller, 1902 — formerly Alexander Brown, 1876.
Canadian Canners Ltd.
Carson E M. — Floor Finishing
Carson, I. W. — General Accountant
Cascadden, Harold — Car Repairs
Cedar Beach Inn — Frank Pilchak
Chamberlin Metal Weather Strip Co. Ltd. — S. Green
Coghill, L. C. — Trucker, Coal, Wood and Ice
Collins, Roy C. — General Car Repairs
Conklin Planing Mills
Consolidated Leaf Tobacco Co.
Corner House — Restaurant
Continental Leaf Tobacco Co.
Covell's Hardware — Tinsmithing
Cox, E. W. & Son — Cement Contractors
Cox, Ted & Sons — Cement Work
Crawf顿 Inn — Harry Chevalier
Cull, Harold — Fisherman
Cascadden's Novelty Shop — E. Cascadden, 1942 — formerly Chas. Leggett, 1892.
Challis & Martin — Clarence Challis and B. Martin, 1949 — Plumbing and Heating.
Consumers' Cold Storage — Keith Wigle, manager W. Nicholson, 1940.
Cox's Cycle Shop — E. Cox.
Crawford & Son, Furniture — Donald Crawford — formerly Healey & Crawford, 1905.
Dawson, Manley — Trucking & Cartage
Deacon, Wm. — Store Linden Beach
Dominion Store Ltd. — Norman England, mgr.
David's Grocery Store — Joe David, 1952 — formerly Wasief David, 1908.
Dawson Farm Implements — Hubert Dawson, 1937 — formerly Dawson & Wigle, 1914.
Elliott's Flowers — James Elliott.
Eatons, T. & Co. Ltd.
Flewelling's Restaurant and Taxi — Ernest Flewelling, 1946.
Fraser's Restaurant — Ledo Fraser, 1951 — formerly Murray Lovisot, 1949
Fairbairn, T. A. — Contractor
Fast & White — Electrical Contractors
Ferguson, John B. — Funeral Director
Flanders, E. L. — Radio Service
Ford Dry Cleaners
Fox, Wm. — Fishery
Foale, Harold — Fisherman
Fuller, Ed. — Fisherman
Frost, E. L. — Insurance — "Everything but Life"
Gallagher's — appliances, wallpaper, paint, hardware — Robert Gallagher, 1947.
Gardner, M. R. — Optometrist
Grayson, Peter — Optometrist
Gresser, C. — Painter
Greyhound Bus Terminal
Helen's Beauty Shop
Hickmott, Milfred — Decorator

Hill, Walter E. — Excavating Contractor
Hodge Tobacco Co.
Hodkinson, Godfrey — Electrical Contractor
Humphreys, W. E. — Farm Implements
Hutchings Service Station — Mac Hutchings
Hutchinson, M. A. — Electrical Contractor
Hydro Electric Power Commission
Harry's Meat Market — Harry Robinson, 1948 — formerly
Lloyd Eaton, 1936.
Hillman's Department Store — Chester Hillman, 1949 —
formerly Robert Lane.
Hogarth and Graham — furniture, home furnishings, floor coverings,
appliances — Garnet Hogarth and Fred Graham, 1946.
Home Bakery — K. M. Smith, 1949 — formerly Harry Stevens, 1932
Horwath Garage — Leslie Horwath, 1949 — formerly Ernest Cox.
Innes, C. — Welding
Irene's Beauty Shop
Irrigation Equipment Co Ltd.
Jackson's China Shop — Foster Jackson, 1946 — formerly
Albert Green, 1923.
Kellington, H. A. — Cement Contractor
King, C. Peter — Manufacturer
Kingsville Co-Operative Supply Association
Kingsville Fish Co. — Elmer Simpson
Kingsville Golf & Country Club
Kingsville Grill
Kingsville Machine & Pump Co. Ltd.
Kingsville Motor Sales
Kingsville Public Utilities
Kissner, Don — Cement Contractor
Kingsville Coal & Dock Co. Ltd.
Kingsville Dairy — Arthur Allen, 1930 — formerly Mr. Curtis, 1924.
Kingsville Hotel — Pat O'Malley, 1945 — formerly King's Hotel.
Kingsville Reporter — Collin Sims, W. D. Conklin.
Kubis Restaurant — Andrew Kubis and Sons, 1947 —
formerly J. C. Babcock, 1941.
Lakeshore Terrace Hotel — formerly Mettawas Hotel.
Layman's Drug Store — Nelson Layman, 1942 — formerly
Harry C. Layman, 1906.
Layman's Shoe Store — Douglas Layman, 1938 — formerly
E. O. Scratch, 1898.
Laird, Roy — Painter and Decorator
Lakeshore Industries — A. E. Flewelling, Mgr.
Laramie, Carl — Water Well Drilling
Lawrence, Wm. — Welding
Long, W. G. & Son — Insurance
Loop Fisheries — Urias, Marvin, John
Malott's Machine Shop — John Malott.
Mary Kathryn Shop — Ladies' Specialty Shop — Mrs. M. Litt, 1945.
Malott, Ray — Fishery
Miner's Restaurant — Glenn F. Miner, 1949 — formerly Morley Simpson.
Miner's Smoke Shop — Glenn F. Miner — formerly Thos. Fairbairn.
Modern Shoe Repair — Fred Moore, 1946.
Myles Motor Sales — 1951 — formerly K. Ponsford.
McCay's Hardware — hardware, appliances, china, wallpaper, 1908.
McCreery's Jewellery — W. K. McCreery, 1947.
Malor's Cleaners & Dyers
Malott's Beauty Parlor
Bank of Montreal
Melton Bros. — Fishery
Murray, Doug — Fishery
Moody, E. J. — Fisherman
Ouellette's Model Laundry — A. J. Ouellette and Sons, 1946.
Pearsall's China Store — Marion Pearsall, 1946 — formerly
Chas. Pearsall, 1896 — family business same location since 1846.

Pickard's Department Store — C. R. Pickard, 1930, who began first 5c to \$1.00 Store in Windsor, 1914 — formerly O. & J. Company, Ltd.
Pillsworth's Shoe Store — Harold Pillsworth, 1950 — formerly S. Siversn, 1912.

Paterson, Neil A. — Investments
Pelee Shipping Co. Ltd.
Quick, C. C. — Electrician
Queen's Garage, Ltd. — Ford Dealers, 1924.
C. A. Quick & Sons, Ltd. — groceries, dry goods — formerly Thos. Quick, 1895.

Rankin Forging Die Co. — Carson Rankin
Rankin & Son Fishery — Bill and Carson Rankin
Rankin, Raymond — Fisherman
Rankin & Lane — Fishermen
Remark's Orchards
Royal Bank of Canada
Roxy Theatre
Rae's Hardware — Kenneth Rae, 1918 — formerly Scratch & McDonald.
Sanford, Wm. W. — Insurance and Real Estate
Saunders, Clayton — Plastering and Contracting
Saunders, Everett — Plasterer
Saunders, James — Painting and Decorating
Saunders, John & Son — Plastering Contractor
Savanyu, Jas. — Carpenter
Scott, R. L. — Insurance
Scratch, Lennie — Fishery
Sellers, Howard — Insurance
Sherman & Sons — Contract Hauling
South Essex Fuels Ltd.
Steinke, Leo — Excavating Contractor
Stewart, John E. Jr. — Fishery
Salmoni's — groceries, dry goods — T. J. Salmoni and Sons, 1895.
Sam's Cut Rate — men's and children's wear — Sam Warsh, 1937.
Sanford's Garage — Alvin Sanford, 1934 — formerly John Malott.
Schneider's Clothing — men's ready-to-wear — Ben Schneider, 1949 — formerly Walter Hillis.
Scott's Beauty Parlor and Barber Shop — Thos. J. Scott, 1924 — formerly premises of Bank of Montreal.
Scott Nurseries — Hubert C. Scott.
Statham's Drug Store — H. L. Statham, 1937 — formerly R. H. Pickard.
George Stomp & Son — groceries — George Stomp, 1944.
Sweetland Restaurant — Wm. Argue, 1949 — formerly F. Fleming, 1947.
Talbot's Electrical Motor Service
Thornton, J. S. — Carpenter
Triangle Fisheries — Harold Julien
Tally Ho — summer hotel — Mrs. Lorna Parker.
Town Beauty Shop — Marion Alice.
Ulch, Louis — Cement Contractor
Van Bauwel, Joe — Store, 4th Con.
Veteran's Concrete Const. Co. — L. Rumble
Veteran's Lunch — restaurant and taxi — Albert Brown, 1949 — formerly Don Taggart, 1946.
Vic's Grocery — Victor Lucas, 1949 — formerly Murray Valentine, 1944.
Vogue Beauty Shop — Jos. Hannaeur, 1937.
Walls, Larry — Contractor
Weintraub, E. A. — Realtor
Wigle's Groceries — Glenford Wigle
Wigle, Owen — Plumbing and Heating
Wigle, R. H. — Real Estate
Wigle, W. G. & Son — Plumbing and Heating
Williams, Cliff — Chrysler, Plymouth, Fargo Trucks
Wright, Gerald — Custom Baling
Webb & Company — men's clothing — Hugh Secord, 1945 — formerly F. M. Webb and Morton Webb, 1909.
Wigle Grocery — Glenford Wigle, 1936 — formerly Mr. De Castick.

Dr. Q. Bliss — physician and surgeon
Dr. T. D. Campbell — dentist
Dr. E. A. Currie — physician and surgeon
Dr. R. R. Hudgins — dentist
Dr. L. C. Jenner — physician and surgeon
Karry & Couture — law offices — G. J. Karry, 1942, and D. Couture, 1951
formerly W. D. Conklin, Q.C., 1937.
R. Penty — law office, 1949 — formerly B. A. E. Clouse, 1936.
A. B. Smith, Q.S. — law office 1920 — formerly W. A. Smith, 1889.

Transportation facilities serve Kingsville adequately. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway provides good freight connections with other Canadian and U. S. lines. Fine highways leading east, west and north, afford frequent motor bus and truck service.

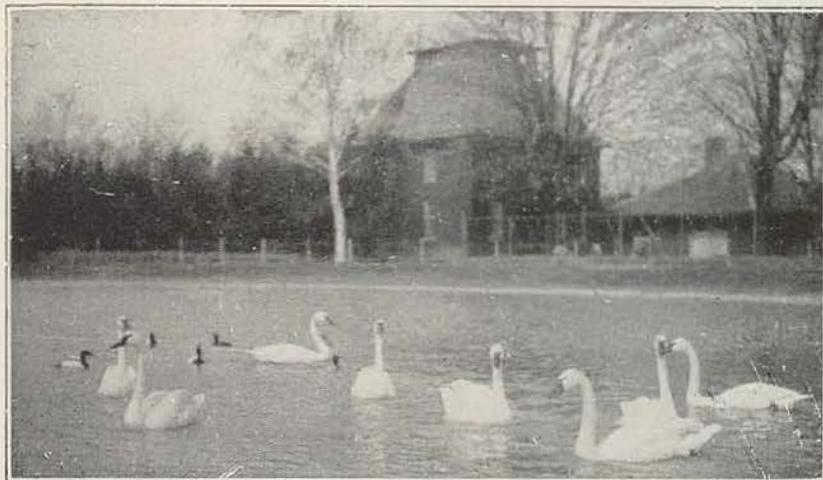
There is more than adequate hydro electric power. The town's water supply has been continuously improved, with a modern pumping and purifying system.

Two banks serve the community, these being the Bank of Montreal and the Royal Bank of Canada.

Kingsville Golf and Country Club boasts one of the most scenic 18-hole courses in Ontario.

All-in-all, Kingville of 1952 is the ideal spot to live, to work, and to play. The town affords every facility for happy living.

Kingsville is a town of good homes, with a well trained, well equipped fire fighting force to protect them.



Swans in One of the Sanctuary Ponds

There are three public parks, two service clubs, and a junior and senior Chamber of Commerce. A fine new high school is under construction, in addition to the present public and separate schools. The spirit of Christian fellowship is exemplified in the town's possession of seven churches, including Anglican, Baptist, United, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army, Lutheran and Pentecostal. Each of these embraces many church organizations which make living in Kingsville so complete.

Kingsville's permanent population numbers something over 2,600. Nor do its numbers tell the complete story. Many of its people have roots in the town and district reaching back over 160 years. Newcomers have been made welcome. It would be difficult to match the friendliness of Kingsville's community anywhere.

Kingsville's valiant forefathers would be happy and proud of their effort if they could see Kingsville of 1952.